GOVERNMENT BILLS

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA): Dr. C.P. Thakur to introduce the Medical Termination of Pregnancy (Amendment) Bill, 2002.

THE MEDICAL TERMINATION OF PREGNANCY (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2002

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act, 1971.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

DR. C.P. THAKUR: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA): Now, Shri Yashwant Sinha to move the Finance Bill for consideration of the House.

THE FINANCE BILL, 2002

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): Sir, I beg to move: that a Bill. to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the financial year 2002-2003, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.

The question was proposed

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA): Now, Shri Murli Deora.

SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM (Maharashtra): Is this his maiden speech in the Rajya Sabha?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA):: Yes, this is his maiden speech in the Rajya Sabha.

SHRI MURLI DEORA (Maharashtra): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, twice I had the privilege of initiating the debate on the Budget when Mr. Yashwant Sinha presented the Budget in the Lok Sabha, and I am grateful to you for giving me this opportunity to speak today. On 27th February, 2002 when the Finance Minister presented the Budget, unfortunately, the massive riots and carnage which took place in Gujarat totally diverted the public attention as to what was hidden or unhidden in Mr. Yashwant Sinha's Budget. But, later on, the people started realising how disastrous is the Budget presented by

my friend, Mr. Yashwant Sinha.

Sir, at the outset, I would like to congratulate him for becoming one of the few Finance Ministers and the only one non-Congress Finance Minister who could present five Budgets. At the time of his first Budget Speech, I had said that he would not present his second Budget, but I was totally wrong. I am glad that I was wrong. Sir, Mr. Sinha has several records to his credit. Perhaps, he is the only Finance Minister in the history of India who had not presented a Budget. In 1991, I don't think Mr. Sinha had presented the Budget. Sir, Mr. Sinha has another record for which he should be congratulated. He has succeeded in creating a consensus -- which is such a far of dream and which is so difficult to achieve -- amongst everyone in this country. From Shri Sitaram Yechuri to Shri Mange Ram Garg, B.J.P. President, everyone is saying that this is a disastrous Budget. I must congratulate you for bringing about such a consensus in the country. Everybody says that the Budget is not good. I was really surprised when I saw the statement of the B.J.P. President in Delhi. I don't know to which group Mr. Sinha belongs and to which group he belongs, but he said that the singular reason for losing the Delhi Municipal elections was Mr. Sinha's Budget. I think, they had overestimated Mr. Sinha on this issue.

Sir, the central focal point of India's economy is employment. Here, I would like to quote one article dated 1st June, 1997 -- I hope Mr. Sinha will remember that -- when Mr. Sinha commented on Mr. P. Chidambaram's Budget. He said, "The central problem of the Indian economy is unemployment. This problem has not even been mentioned in the Budget, much less tackled. Mr. Chidambaram obviously believes in what Galbraith once said. "If you feed oats to the horses, some of it might ultimately get to the sparrows." Mr. Sinha, you must be remembering that. He further says, " 'Mr. Chidambaram's great Budget will bring prosperity to the economy and, thus, the problem of unemployment will automatically be taken care of.' Nothing could be farther from the truth."

These are the words of Mr. Sinha on 1st June, 1997. This was immediately after the Budget of Mr. Chidambaram in 1997. I would only like to know from Mr. Sinha, after his having presented five Budgets, what importance he has given to the word 'employment'. Nothing. In two out of five Budgets, he has not even mentioned the very word 'employment'. I would give you the figures of what he had promised and how miserably he has failed. Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House that after Lok Sabha elections, all these 22 or 23 parties got together and prepared a

programme called the National Agenda for Governance. You can imagine that if I read the names of these parties, it will not be very convenient to the other side because 30 to 40 per cent have already left them. I do not want to go into it. I only want to read out only one line of this National Agenda for Governance. Regarding eradication of unemployment, it says, 'The main thrust of the new Government will be बेरोज़गारी हटाओ, eradicate unemployment. As against the present trend of jobless growth, our Government, the NDA Government, will measure growth by generation of gainful employment.' I will now give you the figures which will disprove whatever promises they made on the employment sector. They have miserably failed. Sir, in reply to Unstarred Question No.4446 only last month in the Lok Sabha, hon. Labour Minister, Shri Sharad Yadav stated that the number of educated job seekers on the live registers of the Employment Exchanges stood at 27.28 million as on 31st December, 1997. This figure also stood at 27.28 million as on 31st December, 1998. But it was 28.66 million as on 31st Decmber, 1999. There has been a rise of over five per cent in two years in the unemployment chart. In the same reply, the hon. Minister for Labour says that the number of placement by Employment Exchanges during 1997 was a small amount -- no wonder, 1.37 lakh. But in the very next year, the same figure of 1.37 lakh goes down to about 95,000. It is 25 to 30 per cent decline in the creation of jobs for the educated. Sir, one can see that the creation of employment has fallen very progressively. The employment growth has been brought from 1.51 per cent in 1996 when the Congress was in power to a negative of 0.17 per cent in 2000. Recently *India Today* had an article which says that we may lose over one million jobs in just two years. The BIFR has 3296 units registered as sick today. Of these, 830 were registered with the BIFR only in the last 14 months. Altogether they employ 18.84 lakh people, meaning more than 1.8 million people. Their accumulated losses are over Rs. 50,000 crores. In other words, almost 1.8 million workers could potentially lose their jobs. Let us take the public sector. Since Mr. Sinha spoke about employment, I am restricting my speech on employment generation which he so wilfully promised in his first Budget.

श्री यशवंत सिन्हा : आप थोड़ा सा फाइनांस बिल पर भी बोलिए ।

SHRI MURLI DEORA: I think you said in your Budget Speech that the main sector of finance or economy is employment. So, I am speaking on employment. I am only quoting you. In public sector alone, 2.5 lakh jobs have been abolished. I will give you some figures, Mr. Sinha. This includes

reduction of 44,000 jobs in NTC, 5,000 jobs in the Hindustan Steel Works, 3,000 jobs in the Heavy Engineering Corporation, and 2,700 jobs in the Bharat Coal. The Steel Authority of India Limited plants reduced workforce of 17,000 people. The Coal India Limited will reduce it by 34,000, in the next four years through the VRS.

Even in the private sector, the scenario remains the same. According to the *Economic Times* of 25th March, 2000, factories have slashed 7 lakh jobs in 3 years. The Central Statistical Organisation has recently released results of 1999-2000, the annual survey of industry, which is a very comprehensive survey for the Indian industries. The quick estimate for 1999-2000 released by them had indicated a sharp increase in the number of employments. However, the revised data has reversed that. The number of employments dipped by close to 5% during 1999-2000 on top of a fall of 3% in the previous year.

Sir, what do we do to create more demand? What do we do to create more investment? Mr. Yashwant Sinha promised in all his Budgets that the Government policies would be such that they would give encouragement to investment. In reality, the Government has converted India into a high-risk investment destination. If you look at the IPOs, in 1994, when Dr. Manmohan Singh was the Finance Minister, there were 1,231 new public issues mopping a total investment of Rs.9,919 crores. However, during the last five years, the total number of issues was very small--241, mopping a total sum of Rs.7,412 crores only. The total amount of resources mobilised for investment in five years was less than the one year when Dr. Manmohan Singh was the Finance Minister. Against 1,231 issues, it is only six this year. The capital market has virtually passed a vote of no-confidence against the Government policy.

Mr. Finance Minister, you may be having some justification in imposing tax on dividends. But I wonder whether you have tried to find out whether the tax authorities have enough infrastructure to prepare all these refund dividends. They will be flooded with thousands and lakhs of warrants, which they will have to send.

What is the status of public finance? The National Agenda for Governance spoke about that and I would like to present some facts on this. I remember, three years back, Shri Yashwant Sinha said in the Lok Sabha, "We are going to downsize the Government." But it was only for namesake. It was in the headlines of some newspapers, but he has not done anything on that. I would like to prove how wrong he was at that time.

The Central Government expenditure has gone up from Rs. 2,79,340 crores in 1998 to Rs. 4,10,000 crores in 2002-03. The interest payments have shot up from Rs. 77,000 crores to Rs. 1,17,000 crores. The Finance Minister had, in his Budget Speech of 1999, had taken a vow to cut down the Government expenditure. But it is not to be seen. His revenue expenditure has gone up from Rs. 2,16,000 crores in 1999 to Rs. 3,40,000 crores in 2002-03. On the other hand, the capital or developmental expenditure has dropped from Rs. 62,000 crores in 1998 to Rs. 47,000 crores in 2001. Mr. Sinha has presented the capital or developmental expenditure in his five Budgets from 22 per cent of the total expenditure to 17 per cent of the total expenditure. This means, the Government is, actually, now, borrowing more every year than it earns. Given this picture how can you presume that the BJP Government would take steps to redress the problem? But I am afraid this is not the case. In fact, in the coming year, the total debt servicing increases to Rs. 2,58,000 crores; worse, the internal debt, which has doubled from Rs. 4,59,000 crores in 1998 to Rs. 9,90,000 crores. Mr. Ananth Kumar should thank that he has shifted his Ministry. Otherwise, he would not get any allocation.

Now, let us see the growth figures. Whenever I have seen Mr. Sinha articulating on the Budget - I do not know what has happened this time; we did not see because of the Gujarat riots - he made a very good presentation. I must congratulate him. The reality behind that is not what he is presenting on the television or the other electronic media. Annual average GDP growth rate, at 5.4 per cent, since 1998, has been the lowest in fifteen years! It is given in *India Today* - with your picture on the cover. I am quoting from the *India Today*.

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): Do you authenticate it?

SHRI MURLI DEORA: It is very friendly towards you these days. I don't know to which group you belong to and I do not know to which group they are supporting in your party. You and I know that. But, anyway, the annual average GDP growth...

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Do you authenticate that?

SHRI MURLI DEORA: You are not allowed to speak. Please do not speak. And you have no chance of becoming the Finance Minister, because others are waiting for this. So, you do not even try for this. Sir, the GDP growth is the lowest in the last fifteen years and this has hit the corporate

sector. A recent report of the CII says that 30, out of 116 industrial segments, have recorded a negative growth. The BJP's Economic Resolution at Goa, where the hon. Finance Minister was very severely criticised, says, "The fiscal situation is such that the total revenue receipts of Rs. 2.12 lakh crores in 2002 would fall short by Rs. 17,900 crores to meet even the debt servicing of Rs. 2.30 lakh crores, let alone enabling the Government to meet current and development expenditure. I am sure, my friend, Shri S.S. Ahluwalia, might be regretting as to why he had gone from this side to that side. We do not know how will they manage the economy. Sir, I would only like to give two suggestions to the hon. Finance Minister. The first one is: I have been saying this for years and he has done a lot of work on that. I am talking about the housing sector. This is one sector that can give ample employment opportunities and, simultaneous growth to revive the economy. Every time we are giving piecemeal solutions and piecemeal encouragement. This time also very small encouragement has been given to this sector by the hon. Finance Minister. Sir, construction of one million housing units per year has the potential to create an additional five million direct and 7.5 million indirect jobs. This is something for Mr. Ananth Kumar because he is a Minister of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation. Sir, one million houses will give employment opportunities to 3.1 crore construction workers. Of which, about half of them are women. Every rupee invested in housing adds to 78 paise to the GDP. Housing industry has backward and forward linkages to over 250 ancillary units. If you help in construction of houses, you are helping the cement sector, steel sector, hardware sector, furniture sector and other units.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: 256 ancillary units.

SHRI MURLI DEORA: You are right. Good. So, I think, you have no influence on the Finance Minister. And do not say that when you become the Finance Minister, you will do that. Every ten million invested on housing leads to consumption of 700 tonnes of cement and 55 tonnes of steel. What is happening is: investment of Rs. 100 in housing would result in direct accruals to the Government by as much as Rs. 11 in the form of excise or through other things. In this year's Budget, you have given some sops to them. What I would request you is: in order to encourage the housing sector, the housing loan subsidy provided by the employer should not be treated as perquisite and, hence, should not be subject to any tax at all. That means, total abolition. The interest paid on housing loan should

be totally exempted from Income Tax. Now, at present, it is Rs. 1.5 lakhs. I agree that you have increased it. Today, I go to a restaurant or a hotel, I pay for one day's hotel bill, it is deductible from my tax. Then, why is it that there is a ceiling on interest on the housing loan? There is no rationality behind that. I would request the hon. Minister for removal of this ceiling.

What is needed is to help and support the consumer demand. We all know recession has hit the consumer industry very badly. If you see the shops of televisions, stores, bicycles, cycle rickshaws, scooters, they are not able to sell even 50 per cent or 60 per cent of their product which they were selling earlier. Mr. Sinha you know it very well. The products which had taken 2, 3 or 4 years delivery period are now lying in the warehouses. Since there is no demand in the market, they are curtailing their production and creating unemployment. What is needed is a cheap and easy consumer financial system. Fortunately, HDFC, ICICI, SBI and several such organisations are doing an excellent job. But there is a need to further improve that. You have to convince somebody, who does not want to buy a scooter, to buy a scooter. He does not want to buy because he has to pay huge instalments for 10 or 15 or 20 years. You have to make it simple so that he can buy them. If you do so, there will be a spurt in demand and when there is more demand, there will be more sales. When there are more sales, there will be more industries and when there are more industries, there will be more employment opportunities. I wonder, during his overseas trips, which is almost once in every month, whether he borrows money from others.

I would like to know whether he has ever landed in Korea. I am referring to the issue of credit cards. Sir, 92 per cent of the purchases and sale transactions in Korea are made through credit cards. If you encourage buying and selling articles through credit cards, the entire transactions go in the books and nobody can use black money. Secondly, since it has come in books, he has to pay income tax. The third one is, it helps the States in getting sales tax. I have seen some shops somewhere, I do not want to give you the details, where they say, 'बिल का माल अलग और बिना बिल का माल अलग'! You must have heard it. You are in Bihar and what is the name of that State..*(Interruptions)*... I do not even remember the name of the State..*(Interruptions)*... In Jharkhand the ratio will be higher than in Mumbai, I can tell you.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA (Jharkhand): Sir, it is very unfortunate. I belong to Jharkhand State. He is the first speaker of the Congress Party.

SHRI MURLI DEORA: Nobody knows that you are from Jharkhand.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: The Congress Party had participated in the States' Reorganisation Bill and now he says, "I do not remember the name of the State". It is very unfortunate.

SHRI MURLI DEORA: I am sorry. Mr. Ahluwalia, you ask your Minister what I have done for Jharkhand. You have been only elected from Jharkhand.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: You may talk about all these things privately in the Central Hall, but not on the floor of the House.

SHRI MURLI DEORA: I am sorry. I stand corrected. I do not remember the name. I know Jharkhand. I had been to Ranchi. Please do not say that I do not know Jharkhand. I had been to Hazaribagh. So, do not say that. So, what I am trying to say, through you, Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, is this, the hon. Finance Minister is encouraging the credit card system, then why is he imposing service tax on it? You are discouraging it. If you buy articles through black money - Number two cash - for Rs. 5,000, then it is cheaper than buying through a credit card, because you are paying Rs. 5 more as service tax. Please think about this. This will help create a big demand, and the people will not have to maintain their cash account and any other such account. This will be very helpful. I would like to speak two lines on disinvestment also. Against the target of Rs. 66,000 crores, we have got only Rs. 25,260 crores; that is, only 39 per cent has been achieved. What is needed for disinvestment - according to me - first, we should create massive public awareness. We should generate public support for disinvestment, and that can only be done when we tell them where the money, coming out of disinvestment, will be used. If the Government promises categorically that it would keep this amount separately in a fund for use only in the social sector, housing, education, hospitals, etc. We will be able to sell the idea to the people. People will not have reservations. Even the Communists will support it. They will say, after all, they were not able to run the BALCO, the Modern Foods, some hotel, or whatever is there, so it is better to give it to the private sector and get some money, and the money can be used for...*(Interruptions)*... The CAG's report is over now. I would request the hon. Minister to have some private talk with the

4.00 P.M.

Minister of Disinvestment - who is waiting to take over your job - and explain to him that these are the things. One more thing, I would like to say about disinvestment is, the asset valuation guidelines are inadequate and vague, especially on the issue of land valuation in the case of disinvestment. I will give you an example of the Centaur Hotel, Mumbai. Mr. Minister, you have seen the Centaur Hotel, Mumbai. The money they are wanting to realise out of the Mumbai Centaur Hotel disinvestment is less than the price of the land. And what is the criterion? The criterion, they say, is that they are not making profits. They will certainly not make profits. If you are running a hotel or a hospital, you are not going to make profits. So, this should not be the criterion. The second thing is the time. You must sell only when that industry is doing well. Today, after the incident of 11th September, the hotel industry is not doing well..*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI LALITBHAI MEHTA (Gujarat): Are running a hospital and running a hotel the same?

SHRI MURLI DEORA: I firmly believe that the Government should not run hotels. I also believe, if even the hospitals are allowed to be run by private people, with the same money they, will do a much, much better job. The same is the case with schools or colleges, engineering colleges, etc. It has been proved all over the world. I am sure the Government has understood that. Sir, I remember when I was the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Finance, we vetted a legislation, for opening the insurance sector to private sector. Even my communist friend, Mr. Biplab Dasgupta, was of great help because I refused to write his observations. ...*(Interruptions)*... I would ask my CPM friend here whether he knows what has happened in these two years. How many thousands of new young boys and girls have got jobs, and jobs not of Rs. 2,000/-, Rs. 3,000/- or Rs. 4,000/-, but of Rs. 50,000/-, Rs. 1,00,000/-, Rs. 2,00,000/- per month.

Thanks to the competition with the AIG, the General Insurance, the Prudential, the Allianze. All these big insurance companies are doing better. When I was the Mayor of Bombay, I was the Director of the LIC, when Mr. C. Subramaniam was the Finance Minister. I had never seen even a single advertisement on LIC. Did you ever see any advertisement on LIC? But, now, you would be able to see. This is because of the competition. Whenever there is competition, the quality will improve, the service will improve, and the price will go down. I believe that this is because of the

economic reforms started by Dr. Manmohan Singh. I am glad you are clapping on that. Sir, at that time, we had decided to have the foreign participation ..*(Interruptions)*... it was restricted to 26 per cent only. I was myself of the opinion that we should start with 26 per cent foreign participation. But, now, I would say, the time has come when there is a need to increase the ceiling of 26 per cent. I want that the ceiling should be increased to 49 per cent. This will give nearly a little less than a billion dollars, but more than that this will give further participation, accountability of the foreign sectors; and knowing of the Insurance Sector. I don't know whether the hon. Finance Minister knows this or not. Giving 26 per cent participation to the foreign companies would mean that out of a total equity of Rs. 100 crore, Rs. 26 crore equity would be sold to the foreign companies. Hence, our Indian entrepreneurs are charging, Mr. Finance Minister, you would be knowing, a hundred per cent premium on that. Some of the Insurance Companies have sold the foreign equity shares at 100 per cent to 200 per cent premium, which speaks well of the Indian management and Indian entrepreneurship. So, I am sure that if this foreign equity is increased from 26 per cent to 49 per cent, it will further help.

Sir, regarding disinvestments, I would like to say that we have to learn a lesson from some of the Government's mishandlings. I agree that there would have been some mishandlings during our time also. Here, I may mention about the Maruti Udyog Ltd. At that time, do you know, how much the Government was able to fetch from the Maruti Udyog? Today, you are not getting even one tenth of it. And, I would also like to mention here, how badly the Disinvestment Ministry mishandled the case of Air India here. Otherwise, today, you cannot imagine, how much amount the Government would have got for Air India. Sir, here, one suggestion has come from somebody. It is really not my suggestion; I had read it somewhere. I quote: "whether the time has come to sell a small portion of equity of our public sector insurance companies, because their market capacity is going down?" There was a time when they had a monopoly, like the Maruti. Earlier, the LIC and the GIC had a monopoly, but, now, their monopoly is getting over. Now, about 15-20 foreign insurance companies are there, and they will be doing life insurance business and general insurance business. So, I would like to know whether the time has come to sell or to divest part of the equity from these sectors which will that is so, realise very, very high amount, that is, over a billion dollars. In case, it is better to sell now, otherwise, the competition is going to increase and the prices will go down, like in the case of the Maruti Udyog Ltd.

Sir, thanks to the vision of late Shri Rajiv Gandhi, the IT sector is the only sector which is showing an upward trend today. Due to this, in the year 2002-03, 35,000 new jobs will be created. In 2001, exports were 13.5 per cent, they were 16.5 per cent in 2002, and it will be 18.6 per cent in 2003. Here, I remember someone, whom you also know, Mr. Finance Minister, Late Shri Dewang Mehta, who was the Chairman of the NASSCOM. He was singularly responsible for bringing India on the world IT map. You know very well. I remember, he used to say that we are doing very well today, not because of the Government, but inspite of the Government. He said that if we have a minimum to minimum interference from the Government side, we would be able to flourish. Now, Mr. Sinha, you have put 10 per cent tax on them. Maybe, you have put an export tax on them. I am not against it. Some of them are making money, so, anyone who is making money has to pay tax. But, they must not get a feeling that the Government is interfering in a big way. That will really demoralise the IT sector. Sir, I just mentioned that about 35,000 people would be getting jobs during 2002-03. But, actually, lakhs of other young people living in the rural and urban areas of our country would have got more productive jobs if they had acquired computer training. But because of lack of better computer training facilities - Mr. Finance Minister, I am talking to you about the computer training. You yourself must be knowing how effective it is to help people to get jobs after computer training. Here, I have one small suggestion to make. Thousands of NRIs and various multinational corporations around the world are ready to donate, and I mean it, thousands of phased out computers, in reality, they are second-hand computers, but with some clause, P-I, P-II and above. They are ready to donate such computers to various Indian schools and colleges and to private institutions. Sir, as you know, it takes one year to import them and to get permission from the Central Excise Department or whatever it is. Sir, I tell you that it took me one year to get computers for Bharati Vidya Bhavan. Now, again, my application is pending. Some people are ready to donate 7500 computers. Therefore, in such cases also, you should permit blanket import, like OGL, etc., as you have done in various other cases. But you imposed two conditions. Firstly, the beneficiaries would be those who are registered or eligible under Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA) in the Ministry of Home Affairs. Those who are permitted under this Act should be allowed to import. Secondly, it is said that the quality of these computers should be good, it should not be like *dibba* or *khoka*.

They should be in useable condition so that they could be effectively used by the students of our schools and colleges - you can say P-I and above, something like that. But some criteria must be found for that. It will help many schools, big or small, in our country.

Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, now I come to the second last point. It relates to foreign exchange reserves. Mr. Finance Minister, once, at the Parliamentary Consultative Committee which you were presiding and Dr. Manmohan Singh was also there, I had raised the issue of the Millennium Bonds and the Resurgent India Bonds (RIB). If you remember, Sir, at that time, I had said that the amount of interest that you were paying was very high - something like 8.5 per cent and more. Today, you are having foreign exchange reserves of $54 billions. What is the use of having such high reserves? I still remember, Sir, on that day, your Economic Adviser was not able to reply to my queries. The amount of interest on the investments that have been made in SDR, Gold or in the US Treasury Bonds is much less, that is, 3.5 per cent. It is 4 per cent less than what you are paying on these Bonds. Mr. Finance Minister, a time has come when you should take into account as to how much foreign exchange reserves we have. It is $ 54 billions. What is the fun of having foreign exchange reserves of $54 billions when you are paying a very higher interest on FCNR, NROR, Millennium Bonds and RIB Bonds. There is an editorial in Economic Times, I do not want to quote that. I would suggest that the Government should prepay the loans which it had taken. Even though they are due in 2005, it would be better to pay them now and save a lot of interest difference, because we are borrowing at a very high rate and we are realising very less rate. It will help a lot to our country. I have some figures with me which will show as to how much money we have lost, only on exchange loss. Foreign exchange reserves have burdened the exchequer to the tune of Rs. 770 crores and Rs.370 crores only because of the exchange risk loss. The value of dollar has gone up from Rs. 41-42 to Rs. 48-49. So, Mr. Finance Minister, I hope you will consider it.

Another point which the hon. Minister mentioned, is the management of foodstocks. Unfortunately, even though he mentioned about it, no concrete plan has come forward from the Government. You have to find out (a) whether the foodgrains which are lying around the country are in safe warehousing or not; (b) whether they are eatable are not, and thirdly, the most important thing is, the Food for Work Programme

which was launched by the Congress, I don't think anything has been done. The Government must do something to see that these programmes are taken care of. Sir, one another record the hon. Minister of Finance has broken is this. I know very well that the Minister of Finance is a former bureaucrat. So, he realises that bureaucrats have no role in the Budget preparation. If Mr. Yashwant Sinha had not retired at that time, maybe, he would have retired today as the Finance Secretary or some other Secretary. It is shocking to see that in five years, Mr. Sinha, you have changed four Finance Secretaries; maybe, you did not believe in them. So, this year, in this Budget, there is no Finance Secretary even. How would you have continuity? You had the meetings with the Chambers of Commerce and various other organisations to know from them what are their expectations and demand, and to tell them what are the problems that the Government has, and what it can do. But, suddenly, when the Budget is presented, you find, the Economic Advisor is gone, the Finance Secretary is gone. I remember - I do not want to mention the names - during Dr. Manmohan Singh's time, and later also, - you also know very well - for four or five years, the same Finance Secretary was continuing. Maybe, the other Departments in the PMO do not allow you to have the Finance Secretary of your choice. Maybe! I appreciate your predicament. But, then, some continuity has to be there. So, I would be happy if the Finance Minister sees to it that he takes step in this regard. Thank you, Sir.

श्री कैलाश जोशी (मध्य प्रदेश) : मान्यवर उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं वित्त विधेयक 2002 के माध्यम से वित्त मंत्री जी द्वारा प्रस्तुत 2002-2003 के बजट पर अपने विचार प्रस्तुत करने के लिए उपस्थित हुआ हूं । महोदय, हमारे देश में पिछले तीन वर्ष ऐसे निकले हैं जिसमें प्राकृतिक, आर्थिक और सामाजिक ऐसी घटनाएं घटी हैं.....

श्री बालकवि बैरागी (मध्य प्रदेश) : राजनैतिक भी कहिए ।

श्री कैलाश जोशी : नहीं । जिन घटनाओं के कारण हमारी अर्थव्यवस्था पर बड़ा प्रतिकूल प्रभाव पड़ा है । इसलिए प्रयास करते हुए भी जिस प्रकार की अपेक्षा की जा सकती थी, वह अपेक्षा पूरी करने में जो हमारी वित्तीय स्थिति है, वह अनुकूल नहीं रही। महोदय, मैं बताना चाहूंगा कि कुछ तो ऐसी स्थितियां बनी हैं - कारगिल हो गया, उड़ीसा में तूफान आया, गुजरात में भयंकर भूकंप आया - इन सब कारणों से केन्द्र सरकार को बहुत बड़ी धनराशि उनमें व्यय करनी पड़ी । दूसरी स्थिति जो उत्पन्न हुई है, वह इस कारण उत्पन्न हुई है कि इसी बीच विश्व व्यापार संगठन की नीतियों को हमें लागू करना पड़ा और उनको लागू करने के कारण भी हमारी अर्थव्यवस्था पर उसका कुछ प्रतिकूल प्रभाव पड़ा है । तीसरा जो कारण मुख्य रूप से बना है, वह यह है कि विश्व में आर्थिक मंदी आयी और हम भी उससे अछूते नहीं रह सकते थे । साथ ही गथ देश के कुछ भागों में लगातार पिछले दो वर्षों में सूखा पड़ा, फसलों पर उसका विपरीत

प्रभाव पड़ा । किन्तु इस सबके बावजूद वित्त मंत्री जी ने बजट प्रस्तुत करते हुए जो अच्छे से अच्छा प्रयास किया जा सकता था, वह किया है । इन तीन वर्षों में जनता पर कोई भारी करारोपण नहीं किये गये । इन तीन वर्षों में देश के विकास में कहीं किसी प्रकार की कमी नहीं की गयी । मैंने तीन वर्षों के बजट को देखा है। कभी भी यह देखने को नहीं मिला कि एक वर्ष में विकास के लिए जो धनराशि आबंटित की गयी हो, दूसरे वर्ष में उसे कम किया गया हो । इसलिए हम यह मान सकते हैं कि जिस प्रकार की परिस्थितियां विद्यमान हैं, उन परिस्थितियों में वित्त मंत्री जी ने जिस प्रकार का बजट सदन में प्रस्तुत किया है, उसके लिए वे हार्दिक बधाई के पात्र हैं । महोदय, मैं कुछ उदाहरण देना चाहता हूं । मैंने यह पाया है कि इस वर्ष के बजट को वित्त मंत्री जी ने कृषि और ग्रामीण विकास को ही सर्वोच्च प्राथमिकता देकर उसे समर्पित किया है । कृषि की दृष्टि से अनेक ऐसे उपाय इस बजट में किये गये हैं जिनका एक वर्ष के अंदर हमें जब लाभ मिलेगा तो निश्चित रूप से कृषि का क्षेत्र उससे लाभान्वित होगा । उसी प्रकार से ग्रामीण विकास के बारे में विचार किया गया है । कृषि के बारे में मुख्य रूप से जो विचार किए गये हैं, अभी तक अनेक बार सदन में भी प्रश्न उपस्थित होते थे, बाहर भी होते थे कि किसान की जो फसलें हैं, उन फसलों का उसे उचित मूल्य नहीं मिलता है। परंतु इन तीन वर्षों में यद्यपि हर साल सरकार ने समर्थन मूल्य बढ़ाया पर समर्थन मूल्य बढ़ाने के बाद भी उत्पादन होने के कारण उसकी खरीदी समय पर नहीं हो पाई । यह राज्य सरकारों का काम था और कई राज्य सरकारें इसमें विफल रहीं और उसका परिणाम किसान को भोगना पड़ा चाहे वह पंजाब हो, चाहे वह मध्य प्रदेश हो, चाहे आंध्र हो, चाहे अन्य प्रदेश हों । इसलिए आवश्यकता इस बात की है कि कृषि के क्षेत्र के बारे में एक नया दृष्टिकोण लेकर इस सरकार को काम करना होगा और उसकी शुरुआत इस बार वित्त मंत्री जी ने की है । उन्होंने अनाज की आवाजाही पर रोक हटाने की बात कही है । उन्होंने किसान को उसके भंडारण की व्यवस्था मिले, इसके लिए शीत ग्रहों के लिए राशि दी है, ग्रामीण गोदाम बनाने के लिए राशि दी है । यही एक व्यवस्था हो सकती है जिसके माध्यम से किसान को अपने उत्पादन का ठीक मूल्य मिल सकता है परंतु इसमें भी यह बात देखने में आई है कि कुछ राज्य सरकारें उसका पालन करने की स्थिति में दिखाई नहीं देतीं । हमारे मध्य प्रदेश में सरकार ने यह तय किया है कि हम अनाज बाहर नहीं जाने देंगे, उस अनाज को प्रोसेस करके ही हम बाहर जाने देंगे । इस प्रकार की जो स्थितियां बन रही हैं, वे उचित नहीं हैं और इसलिए केन्द्र सरकार को राज्य सरकारों को ये निर्देश देने होंगे कि जो नीति केन्द्र सरकार ने तय की है, उस नीति का यथावत् उसी रूप में पालन किया जाए क्योंकि यह नीति वास्तव में बहुत उपयोगी है । उसके कारण किसान अपने अनाज को जहां उसे अधिकतम मूल्य मिले, उस मूल्य में बेच सकता है ।

महोदय, इसी प्रकार से कृषि के मामले में वित्त मंत्री जी ने कुछ अन्य विचार किए हैं, वे भी पहली बार हुए हैं और इन पर पहले कभी विचार नहीं किया गया था । हमारे यहां पर कृषि के ऋण भी बहुत बढ़ गए थे और इस ऋण के कारण किसान नया ऋण प्राप्त नहीं कर सकता था। इस दिशा में पहले भी सरकार ने कदम उठाए थे किंतु इस वर्ष एक अच्छा कदम उठाया है। पहले 25 हज़ार रुपए तक के किसानों के ऋण को "वन टाइम सेटलमेंट" करके देने की व्यवस्था थी, उसको इस बजट में सरकार ने 50 हज़ार रुपए तक बढ़ा दिया है और इसका निश्चित रूप से किसानों को लाभ मिलेगा । उनका जो ऋणभार बढ़ा हुआ है वर्षों से, जो ब्याज दर ब्याज बढ़ता ही जा रहा है, उसमें उनको सुविधा प्राप्त हो सकेगी ।

महोदय, इसी प्रकार फसल बीमा योजना का उल्लेख भी हुआ है । फसल बीमा योजना यद्यपि अन्य प्रदेशों में लागू हो गई है किंतु अभी भी कुछ प्रदेश ऐसे हैं जहां पर फसल बीमा योजना पूरी तरह लागू नहीं हुई है । वहां पुरानी फसल बीमा योजना ही चल रही है जिसके अंदर पूरे विकास खंड को माध्यम बनाया गया था और जो सहकारी बैंकों से या बैंकों से ऋण लेते थे, उन्हीं को उसकी पात्रता थी । जो नई राष्ट्रीय कृषि फसल बीमा योजना केन्द्र सरकार ने लागू की है, वह जिन राज्यों में आरंभ नहीं हुई है वहां शीघ्र लागू कराना चाहिए। इसको भी हमको देखना होगा कि जिससे वास्तव में जो एक बहुत उपयोगी योजना है जिसके माध्यम से प्राकृतिक विपदाओं से निपटने में किसान को अत्यंत सुविधा प्राप्त हो सकेगी, उसके बारे में व्यवस्था की जानी चाहिए।

महोदय, वित्त मंत्री जी ने इस बार सिंचाई के लिए भी बहुत अधिक धनराशि दी है । त्वरित सिंचाई लाभ कार्यक्रम में अभी तक 2000 करोड़ रुपए रखे जाते थे, इस वर्ष 2800 करोड़ रुपए रखे गए हैं । समय पर अगर इनका उपयोग हो जाता है तो सिंचाई का लाभ मिल सकेगा । अधिक कृषि भूमि सिंचाई के अंतर्गत लाई जा सकेगी । उसी प्रकार से अनुसंधान के बारे में कहा गया है । यद्यपि अनुसंधान का कार्य पूर्व में भी होता रहा है किंतु किसानों के खेत तक उसका लाभ अभी तक नहीं पहुंचा है । कई मामलों में वह नीतियों तक ही सीमित रह गया है, कई मामलों में कागज़ों तक ही सीमित रहा है । इसलिए मैं वित्त मंत्री जी से यह आग्रह करना चाहूंगा कि यह जो योजना फिर से आप हाथ में ले रहे हैं नए सिरे से, इसमें अनुसंधान के कार्य को अधिक तेज़ी से आगे बढ़ाने के बारे में आप विचार करेंगे और उसका लाभ यथाशीघ्र किसानों को मिले, इसके बारे में विचार होगा । उसी प्रकार से यद्यपि ग्रामीण क्षेत्र में बहुत पहले भी काम होते रहे हैं । सरकार ने अनेक नई योजनाएं इन तीन वर्षों में ग्रामीण विकास के लिए आरंभ की हैं जैसेकि प्रधानमंत्री ग्राम सड़क योजना, रोजगार की योजना, भवन निर्माण योजना और इंदिरा आवास योजना है लेकिन इस बजट में पहली बार विशेष रूप से जो प्रयास किया गया है, वह यह है कि ग्रामीण क्षेत्र में रहने वाले लोगों के लिए जो योजनाएं चल रही हैं, उनका लाभ तो उन्हें मिले ही इसके अतिरिक्त भी जिन क्षेत्रों में रोजगार बढ़ाने की आवश्यकता है उन क्षेत्रों के लिए विशेष योजनाएं चलाई जाएं । इसी दृष्टि से आपने लोकनायक जयप्रकाश नारायण जी के जन्म वर्ष के उपलक्ष्य में एक नई योजना का शुभारंभ किया है जिसके माध्यम से विशेष रूप से जो पिछड़े क्षेत्र हैं उन क्षेत्रों में रोजगार आश्वासन योजना के आधार पर इस योजना को चलाया जाएगा जिससे उसका लाभ लोगों को प्राप्त हो सकेगा । दूसरी, एक और बहुत उपयोगी योजना, जिसका इस बजट में प्रावधान किया गया है, वह यह है कि गांव में रहने वाला व्यक्ति प्रतिदिन एक रुपया जमा करेगा तो उसका बीमा कर लिया जाएगा । एक बार उसका बीमा हो जाने के बाद, पॉलिसी बन जाने के बाद यदि वह बीमार होता है तो उसे बीस हजार रुपये तक की सहायता दी जाएगी । यदि वह स्थायी रूप से बीमार पड़ जाता है, लंबे समय की चिकित्सा की आवश्यकता होने पर उसे पचास हजार रुपये तक की चिकित्सा सुविधा दी जाएगी । महोदय, इसके साथ-साथ ग्रामीण सिंचाई और ग्रामीण विद्युतीकरण के बारे में इस बजट में विशेष रूप से प्रावधान किए गए हैं । यह प्रशंसनीय है परंतु देखने में यह यह आया है कि इनका त्वरित लाभ उन गांवों तक नहीं पहुंचता है। मैंने अपने प्रदेश में, अन्य स्थानों पर भी देखा है कि कई गांव, जिनका विद्युतीकरण होना चाहिए था, विद्युतीकरण नहीं हो पाया है । राशि दिए जाने के बावजूद भी वे काम समय पर नहीं होते हैं । यह भी ध्यान में रखकर काम करना पड़ेगा कि जो राशि यहां से दी जाती है उसका यथासंभव कम से कम समय में उपयोग किया जा सके जिससे उन गांवों में विद्युत का लाभ प्राप्त हो सके ।

जैसा मैंने अभी कहा कि आपने खाद्यान्न के बारे में कहा है । एक बात मैं निश्चित रूप से कह सकता हूं कि इस संबंध में हमें और भी अन्य प्रकार से विचार करने की आवश्यकता होगी। हम प्रति वर्ष समर्थन मूल्य बढ़ा रहे हैं । किसान का उत्पादन भी मंडियों में आ रहा है लेकिन उसके बावजूद उसे जिस प्रकार से दाम मिलना चाहिए, वह नहीं मिलता । समर्थन मूल्य में राज्य सरकारें समय पर केंद्र स्थापित नहीं करती है । केंद्र स्थापित हो जाने के बाद जितना खाद्यान्न वहां पहुंचता है, वह राज्य सरकार द्वारा नहीं लिया जाता है । इस दृष्टि से केंद्र सरकार को कई प्रकार से विचार करना पड़ेगा क्योंकि अगर किसान उत्पादन बढ़ाएगा और उसे उत्पादन का ठीक प्रकार से मूल्य नहीं मिलेगा तो इसका उसकी अर्थव्यवस्था पर विपरीत प्रभाव पड़ेगा जिसे रोकने की दिशा में गंभीर विचार करके कुछ नये कदम उठाने की आवश्यकता मैं अनुभव करता हूं। उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, अंत में मैं वित्त मंत्री जी का ध्यान सरकारी क्षेत्र की व्यवस्था की ओर आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं । इसका भी आपने अपने बजट भाषण में उल्लेख किया है और उसमें राज्य सरकारों को भी कई सुझाव दिए हैं । किंतु आज इन सहकारी बैंकों और सहकारी संस्थाओं की दो प्रकार की स्थितियां बनी हुई हैं । एक तो यह कि अनेक बैंक लगातार घाटे में चल रहे हैं। यद्यपि विभाग द्वारा उसके लिए कई योजनाएं बनाई गई हैं लेकिन बहुत लंबे समय से हम देख रहे हैं कि जिस प्रकार से उनका क्रियान्वयन होना चाहिए, उस प्रकार से नहीं हो रहा है । पिछले दिनों हम मुम्बई गए थे । वहां एपेक्स, बैंक का फेडेरशन है, उनके साथ हमारी बैठक हुई थी । बैठक में हमने प्रश्न किया था कि आखिर सरकार से ऋण लेकर, पैसा लेकर ये बैंक काम करते हैं तो इन्हें घाटा क्यों होना चाहिए ? तो कोई स्पष्ट उत्तर नहीं दे पाए। उन्होंने यह कहा कि यह मामला हमसे संबंधित नहीं है। यह राजनीतिक मामला है। इसलिए इस मामले को राजनीतिक नहीं रहने देना चाहिए। इसके बारे में विचार होना चाहिए। आपने इसमें सुझाव भी दिया है और नया एक्ट भी आ रहा है। लेकिन उस एक्ट का क्रियान्वयन अगर नीचे तक नहीं होता है तो उसके कारण किसानों को और ग्रामीण क्षेत्र के लोगों को सहकारिता के आंदोलन से जो लाभ मिलना चाहिए, वे लाभ उनको प्राप्त नहीं होने वाले हैं। इस दिशा में भी बहुत गंभीरता से विचार करने की आवश्यकता है।

उसके बाद उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आवास वित्त के बारे में कहना चाहूंगा। सरकार ने लक्ष्य निर्धारित किया था कि प्रतिवर्ष इतने-इतने मकान बनने चाहिए। उसके लिए बजट में प्रावधान भी हो जाते हैं, धनराशि भी उपलब्ध करायी जाती है, किंतु वास्तविकता यह है कि कितना काम वहां शुरू हुआ है, इसकी कोई देखरेख अभी तक मुझे देखने में नहीं आई है। कोई एक जगह जितना लक्ष्य दिया जाता है, उस लक्ष्य के हिसाब से भवनों का निर्माण नहीं हो पाता है। चूंकि ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में इसकी बहुत आवश्यकता है इसलिए ऐसी कोई व्यवस्था की जानी चाहिए, की जानी पड़ेगी जिससे जो यहां से उनको धनराशि दी जाती है उस धनराशि का समय सीमा में उपयोग हो और उसका लाभ भवनहीन लोगों को ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में प्राप्त हो सके।

यहां लघु उद्योगों के बारे में कहा गया है। वास्तविकता है कि लघु उद्योगों की दशा इस समय चिंतनीय है। उसके विभिन्न कारण हैं। एक कारण तो यह है कि विश्व व्यापार संगठन की नीतियां भी इससे जुड़ी हुई हैं। किंतु इसके बावजूद भी लघु उद्योगों को न केवल जीवित रखना होगा बल्कि उन्हें इतना पुष्ट बनाना होगा जिससे वे ठीक प्रकार से काम कर सकें। इस दिशा में आपने एक कदम निश्चित रूप से उठाया है कि उनकी ऋण सीमा को बढ़ाकर आपने 5 लाख रुपए तक किया है, और भी कुछ सुविधाएं उसमें आपने देने की व्यवस्था की है।

एक बात मैं इसमें किसान क्रेडिट कार्ड के बारे में कहूंगा। आपने उसका भी उल्लेख किया है। वास्तव में किसान क्रेडिट कार्ड प्रदेशों में देना जारी तो हो गया है लेकिन अनेकों प्रदेशों में जितनी संख्या में मिलना चाहिए उतनी संख्या में मिल नहीं रहा है। दूसरी यह बात देखने में आई है कि क्रेडिट कार्ड तो मिलते हैं लेकिन सहकारी समिति से ही ऐसी व्यवस्था बन जाती है कि जो प्रभावी किसान हैं, बड़े किसान हैं उनको मिल जाते हैं, छोटे किसानों को वे नहीं मिल पाते हैं। हम लोगों की बैंकों के साथ जब बात हुई तब भी हमने यह चर्चा उठाई थी। तो उन्होंने कहा कि नहीं, हम प्रयास तो करते हैं कि सबको मिले। अच्छा होगा, कि इस दृष्टि से ऐसा दिशा निर्देश दिया जाए कि जिसमें बड़े किसान, मध्यम किसान और लघु तथा सीमांत किसान, सबको समानता से मिल जाए जिससे जिनको उसके लाभ की सबसे पहली आवश्यकता है, बड़ी आवश्यकता है उसकी पूर्ति वे कर सकें। अभी तक यह देखने में नहीं आया है। इसलिए इस दिशा में भी विचार करने की आवश्यकता है।

उसके बाद शिक्षा के बारे में आपने कहा है। अब यह सर्व शिक्षा अभियान 93वें संविधान संशोधन के पारित हो जाने के बाद लागू हो गया है। परंतु इसके बारे में भी यह देखने को आया है कि राशि का आवंटन इस प्रकार से किया जाना चाहिए जिससे कि जनसंख्या का आधार तय हो जाए कि पहली बार में इतनी जनसंख्या में इसका काम होगा, वहां पर शालाएं खोल दी जाएंगी। दूसरी बार में इतनी खोल दी जाएंगी। यह नहीं होने का परिणाम यह हो रहा है कि शालाएं किसी छोटे गांव में खुल रही हैं और बड़े गांव रह जाते हैं। जिनकी ज्यादा जनसंख्या है वे गांव छूट रहे हैं। तो इस दिशा में भी विचार करने की आवश्यकता है। इस पर ध्यान दिया जाना चाहिए।

उसके बाद आपने अनुसूचित जातियों और अनुसूचित जनजातियों के बारे में कहा है। वास्तव में इस बात की बड़ी आवश्यकता है, विशेषकर उन पिछड़े प्रदेशों में जहां इनकी संख्या का प्रतिशत अधिक है। वहां पर उनको अधिक धनराशि दी जानी चाहिए और वह धनराशि देने के बाद इस बात की भी व्यवस्था की जानी चाहिए कि जिस उद्देश्य के लिए, जिस कार्य के लिए वह धनराशि दी जाती है वह कार्य समयावधि में सम्पन्न हो सके क्योंकि यहां से जो धनराशि चली जाती है लेकिन नीचे उसके आधार पर काम होने नहीं पाता है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, इसके साथ ही मैं वित्त मंत्री जी का ध्यान इस ओर भी आकर्षित करना चाहूंगा कि उन्होंने हमारे कुछ कृषि उत्पादन जो विश्व व्यापार संगठन की नीति लागू होने के कारण मूल्य की दृष्टि से प्रभावित हो रहे थे उन पर टैरिफ बढ़ाने का इस बजट में प्रावधान किया है और भी कुछ ऐसी वस्तुएं हैं जिनके बारे में इस दृष्टि से विचार करना आवश्यक है । जब भी ऐसी बातें ध्यान में आती हैं सरकार को चाहिए कि तत्काल इस दिशा में कुछ कदम उठाए । प्रारंभ में कदम कुछ देर से उठे थे, उसके कारण हमारे देश में कठिनाइयां उत्पन्न हुई थीं । वे कठिनाइयां फिर से उत्पन्न न हों इसके लिए सचेष्ट रहने की आवश्यकता है । उस दिशा में सरकार को ध्यान देना चाहिए । उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, वास्तव में, जैसा मैंने कहा कि बजट बहुत अच्छा बना है, वर्तमान परिस्थितियां और वर्तमान कठिनाइयां वित्त मंत्री जी के सामने हैं, उनके बावजूद उन्होंने पूरा प्रयास किया है कि बजट अच्छे से अच्छा बने । किंतु एक बात मेरी समझ में नहीं आई कि पिछले दो बजट जो आए थे, सभी क्षेत्रों में उनकी प्रशंसा हुई थी, परन्तु क्या कारण है कि इस बजट के बाद वह प्रशंसा वित्त मंत्री जी को प्राप्त नहीं हो पाई । कारण मुझ से अधिक वह जानते होंगे, मैं उनको दोहराना नहीं चाहता, परन्तु मैं इतना ही कहना चाहता हूं कि कुछ मामलों में आपने रियायत देने की घोषणा की है, तत्परता दिखाई है, लेकिन कुछ बातें जो बची

हुई हैं उनमें भी रियायत देने के बारे में निश्चित रूप से आप विचार करेंगे, विशेष कर मिट्टी के तेल, पोस्टल सामग्री आदि के बारे में । इसी प्रकार से एक अन्य बात की ओर मैं आपका ध्यान आकर्षित करूंगा । अनेक बार हमको सेवानिवृत्त लोग मिलते हैं, रिटायर्ड लोग मिलते हैं । उनका यह कहना है कि हमारे पास आय का कोई साधन नहीं है और हमारी आय का साधन हमारे पास हमारी जमाराशि ही है । वह जमाराशि हम बैंक में जमा करते हैं, परन्तु बैंक में जमाराशि पर पहले जितना हमको ब्याज़ नहीं मिलता है । इसलिए इस दृष्टि से भी आप इस पर विचार करेंगे और यदि ऐसा पुनर्विचार आप करेंगे तो यह बहुत अच्छी बात होगी ।

इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ, मैं इस बजट का और वित्त विधेयक का हार्दिक समर्थन करता हूं। धन्यवाद ।

श्री बालकवि बैरागी : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं वित्त मंत्री जी से निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि कैलाश जी ने यहां अपना वह भाषण दिया है जो कि वह गोवा में देना चाहते थे, आप जरा इस बात पर ध्यान दीजिएगा । इस भाषण को वह गोवा में नहीं दे सके, इसलिए उन्होंने इसे यहां दिया । ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री टी० एन० चतुर्वेदी (उत्तर प्रदेश) : अच्छी बात, कहीं भी और कभी भी हो जाए, वह अच्छी ही होती है ।

श्री बालकवि बैरागी : इसलिए आप थोड़ा सा गंभीरता से ध्यान दीजिएगा, कैलाश जी ।

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA (West Bengal): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, in the beginning, I apologise, because whatever I am going to say may not be fully understood by my colleagues, as I am not keeping well. I am undergoing treatment. But I hope they will bear with me, listen to me, and try to follow what I am going to say.

In the beginning, I want to mention that I would not like to make a long speech. I would only make three or four important points because the time is short.

The first point is about the rate of growth. There has been a lot of discussion on the rate of growth of the Indian economy. I am happy that the world is coming out of the recession, and the rate of growth would be more than 4 per cent, or, maybe, 5 per cent. But our Prime Minister claims that the rate of growth should be 10 per cent. Some people say it should be 8 per cent and so on. What I am saying is that a high rate of growth is desirable, but not feasible. The Prime Minister does not follow the intricacies of economics. Therefore, when he says that the rate of growth should be 10 per cent, I forgive him. But when the Finance Minister says the same thing, it cannot be forgiven because he knows economics and what the rate of growth is about. The fact that a high rate of growth is desirable is not contested. If you look around the world and compare India's GDP with the

GDP of other countries, you will find that India has got one of the lowest GDP in the world. In East Asia, there are only 5 or 6 countries which have got less GDP *per capita* than India; like Bangladesh, Laos and so on. If you go through the World Bank report or the IMF report or the report of some other body, you will find that the rate of growth in the East Asian countries is much higher than that of India, except 5 or 6 countries. Even Sri Lanka's GDP *per capita* is much higher than that of India. It is proper to ask for a high rate of growth, and I do not doubt that. But can we achieve a high rate of growth? That is the question.

I am now raising a technical point about the incremental capital-output ratio. This means, how much you put in in the form of investment from the savings, and how much you get as output on the savings. During my childhood days, the ratio was 3 : 1, which means, a 3 per cent gross savings on GDP, which was invested, would produce a rate of growth one per cent. Now, it is 4 : 1, which means to achieve a 10 per cent GDP growth rate, we require 40 per cent gross savings. If you compare India's gross savings with that of East Asian countries, it is very close to 40 per cent in the case of East Asian countries, and it is 50 per cent in the case of Singapore. Our gross savings is 21-22 per cent. If you add to that the 2 or 3 per cent foreign savings, it comes to 24 or 25 per cent. With this rate of savings, you can achieve a maximum rate of growth of 6 per cent or around that. Therefore, without raising the rate of savings, you cannot have a high rate of growth.

Whenever I raise this issue, the explanation given by the Government is that India's domestic savings rate is good, but dissavings by the public sector puts the overall savings down. But I am asking you to compare the comparables, that is, to deduct the public sector dissavings or savings from both. In India's case, it means that the 21 or 22 per cent savings will improve by another 2 or 3 per cent with the dissavings by the public sector. With a 24 per cent savings rate, you cannot achieve a rate of growth of more than 6 per cent. If you compare this 24 or 26 per cent savings rate with the almost 40 per cent savings rate of the East Asian countries, you will realise that our rate of savings is not enough to achieve a high rate of growth.

My next point is about the foreign exchange reserves of about 50 million dollars. In every country in the world which has foreign exchange reserves, their foreign exchange reserves is based on export surplus that they have achieved. In India's case, there is no export surplus. In India, the

foreign exchange reserves is built with the help of loans of various kinds from the World Bank, from various other countries and by converting black money into white money and so on. In other words, although our foreign exchange reserves looks very big, it can disappear within a short span of three to four days, through speculation. There is no guarantee that this big foreign exchange reserves will help us. We have seen that in many countries the foreign exchange reserves has disappeared in a matter of days.

Not only this; when we compare with the previous years, in the 80's, -- the period before the 80's means before the reforms ; the period after the 90's means, after the reforms -- we find that in each and every sector, India has performed badly, compared to the 80s, and the rate of growth was higher in the 80's than 90s. Agriculture has done badly in the 90's as compared to the 80's. Industry has done badly. But the GDP has remained more or less the same; in fact, more. Now, if industry has done badly, if agriculture has done badly, and if the GDP level has remained the same, then, it means, something is wrong somewhere. Of course, in services, you have done better. How have you done better in the services sector? It is because the salaries have increased and the defence expenditure has gone up. That is why there is increase in the services sector and the GDP. But I am saying that the services sector in India is not comparable to the services sector of America or Europe. Something has to be done to see whether the basis of those countries would apply to India. I would request the Minister to look at the services sector figures carefully. If industry has done badly, if agriculture has done badly, then, how is it that the economy does as well as before? It cannot be so. As an Economist, I say, it is not possible; something has gone wrong somewhere. You have to find it out. To sum up, I would like to know whether, with the reserve growth estimation that you have, with the present rate of domestic savings that you have, is a growth rate of more than six per cent feasible? The second point is this. The domestic savings is low. If you compare our public sector with the rest of the world, even in U.K:, the domestic savings is lower. So, unless you raise these savings, -- I am making a technical point -- you cannot raise the growth rate. Fourthly, as regards the incremental capital output ratio, as I said, in my childhood days, it was 3:1, whereas, now, it is 4:1. There has to be some efficiency in the use of investment for output. Something is wrong somewhere. Fifthly, as regards the foreign exchange reserves, although it looks impressive, vis-a-vis our export capabilities, it is not substantial. It is, basically, a question of export

surplus. Now, the export surplus is zero. Why are we not having an export surplus? That is the question I am asking. In conclusion, I would say that increasing the rate of savings and creating export surplus are the two important areas which need urgent attention.

SHRI N. JOTHI (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, before I begin my maiden speech, I would like to thank my parents who gave me birth. And, I would thank my leader, Jayalalithaji, for having made that life meaningful.

Regarding allocation of finance and sharing of finance between the States and the Centre, there are enough provisions in the Constitution. I have been a Central Government leader for nine-and-a-half years and a State Government leader for three-and-a-half years. And, I have handled 22 Central Government Departments when I was a Central Government leader. I know the working of the Government, and also a little bit about financial allocations. I am very sorry to state that the present system of financial allocations from the Centre to the States, especially to the State of Tamil Nadu, is far from satisfactory. We have got reasons to state so, and we have got the records to indicate it. I request the Finance Minister to look into the 30 articles of the Constitution of India, contained in Part XII, wherein financial matters have been dealt with, along with other allied subjects. These articles give us a harmonious construction in respect of sharing of financial allocations between the Centre and the States. There cannot be any crude interpretations. There cannot be any wild imaginations. There cannot be any niceties in law in respect of these allocations. It is very clear. The founding fathers of our Constitution have made it very clear. Unfortunately, a cloud is now being cast for the past one year. I hope the Finance Minister will look into it immediately and remove it and send back the withheld amount, which, unfortunately, has been withheld and which rightfully belongs to us.

We are aware that there are provisions pertaining to the Finance Commission and the role that it has to play. However, the Finance Commission cannot make inroads into the mandatory constitutional provisions. There are definite provisions in the Constitution -- on which the hon. Finance Minister may consult his officers -- which clearly say how much percentage he should give to the States, from where he should collect his money and from where he should collect his taxes and duties. We are entitled to have such duties, not as gratis from the Finance Ministry of the Central Government, but as a matter of our right. The late Shri

Annadurai, who was the founder of our party, said about thirty years ago in this very House that the Central Government was not giving charity to the States, nor were the States receiving doles. But, unfortunately, we have been reduced to that level, over the years; and, specially, for the past one year, it is much more.

I said at the beginning itself that I have got reasons to state so and that I have got the documentary evidence. My leader, Dr. Jayalalitha, the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, has written two letters -- two letters of protest. One is dated 25.3.2002, written about 42 days ago. The other one is dated 14.4.2002, written about 25 days ago. Let me read those letters and place them on record. The first one is a very well-written and short letter. Let the hon. Finance Minister first hear this. The first letter is dated 25.3.2002. I quote:-

> "Dear Prime Minister, I am writing this letter to draw your attention to the declining fiscal health of many State Governments, which can not only derail the entire gamut of economic and fiscal reforms being pursued by the Union Government, but also prevent us from being able to meet even the basic needs of our people.
>
> The Union Government's decision to implement the recommendations of the Central Fifth Pay Commission in respect of its own employees compelled most of the State Governments to follow suit. This has resulted in an unbearable strain on the finances of the State Governments. To add to our problems, there was a sharp decline in the collection of Central Taxes in the current year resulting in a corresponding reduction in the share of Central Taxes being devolved to the States. The decision of the Central Government to partially compensate this loss through additional tranche of Open Market Loans (OML) was too little, too late. Therefore, there is an urgent need to conjointly take stock of the situation before our financial problems spiral out of control.
>
> As you are aware, the ratio of unemployed to the rural population in Tamil Nadu is one of the highest in the country. Despite being a pioneer in the implementation of many welfare schemes, the percentage of people around the poverty line is still very high in the State. A concerted effort to create employment opportunities in all the three sectors -- primary, secondary and tertiary -- will have to be made by the State Government to prevent

social discontent".

"The Union Government's economic and fiscal reforms programme requires active participation by the States. We realise that there would be some gain if the targets of the reforms programme are achieved soon and with minimal impact on the poor. But a lot will be lost if the State Governments fail to keep pace with the reforms process.

Shri Yashwant Sinhaji," -- in fact, she herself referred to our Finance Minister in her letter -- "in his Budget for 2002-03, has announced numerous reform-linked devolutions to the State Governments. Though welcome, I do not know how far the cash-starved State Governments will be able to take advantage of this announcement. The decision to devolve the entire small savings collections to the States is welcome, but the gains may not be real because of the reduction in the rates of small savings instruments.

I suggest that the Government of India consider evolving an untied grant package for the States, to enable them to tide over the present financial crisis. Tamil Nadu would require a minimum of Rs.3000 crores, kindly note, Sir, if the development programmes are to be implemented effectively in the coming year. I think several other States would also require such packages. I also suggest that you may kindly consider convening a meeting of all Chief Ministers to work out a common agenda for reforms and development."

Sir, the second letter is dated 14.4.2002. It further points out,. "Dear Prime Minister, the Union Government has imposed several restrictions on the ability of the State Governments to mobilise resources from the market and financial institutions to fund their developmental schemes. These include: ...(Time bell)... Respected Vice-Chairman, Sir, I worked a lot on Saturday and Sunday. I am speaking for my State. This is my maiden speech. Kindly allow me to speak for another ten minutes".

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA): Okay five minutes. Go ahead.

SHRI N. JOTHI : "Mandatory requirement for the State Government to obtain prior permission from the Government of India under article 293(3) of the Constitution, for borrowings of the Special Purpose Vehicles, SPVs,

which are being serviced by the State Government. SPV borrowings, which enter the public account and are further on-lent to the Consolidated Fund of the State will henceforth be not permitted.

The implementation of the Eleventh Finance Commission's recommendations on devolution of taxes has already affected many well-performing States." Sir, one such State is Tamil Nadu. "Tamil Nadu, for example, has suffered a loss of Rs.2946 crores over the five year period, 2000-2005, since the share of Tamil Nadu in devolution of Central taxes has come down from 6.637 per cent to 5.385 per cent. The failure of the Government of India to transfer even the reduced devolution in full during 2001-2002 has aggravated the position further. The loss on both these counts amounted to Rs.1100 crores for Tamil Nadu in the last financial year. The restrictions imposed on the borrowings of the State Governments have to be viewed in this context. As a result of all these measures, Tamil Nadu, which has the third largest percentage of unemployment in the country, was forced to prune its approved Annual Plan outlay for 2001-2002 by Rs.840 crores.

You will agree that the State Governments are in closer and direct touch with the people and are more accountable to the people than the Government of India. I would like to point out that blanket restrictions on the powers of the State Governments to borrow for developmental programmes at a time of severe financial crunch will further limit the ability of the States to implement developmental programmes for the welfare of the people. Tamil Nadu, for instance, has a favourable debt profile and this State need to be encouraged to show a better Plan performance."

Sir, this letter also evoked no response from the Prime Minister as well as the Finance Minister. I don't know the reason why they are continuing to ignore the wish of six crore people of Tamil Nadu. I hope that you will rise up and help the State of Tamil Nadu, as early as possible.

Sir, I would like to further state that the Finance Secretary of Tamil Nadu has written several letters to the officials of the Union Finance Ministry on the need to know how much revenue has come to the Central Pool from the State of Tamil Nadu. No answer is forthcoming. If the same is known to us, we can work out the percentage and demand that money. Only to suppress that, your officials are not furnishing those details. It is not a secret. It is not a military secret. It is an open thing. So, kindly direct your officials to respond to the letters of the Finance Secretary of the State of Tamil Nadu. There are several letters, not one or two, which are lying unanswered.

Secondly, I would like to submit that the constitutional obligations of the Centre and the States could be performed, provided the Central Government responds to the States' demand, specially when a Chief Minister is writing a letter. It is not a healthy sign that a Chief Minister writes a letter and somebody who is here is keeping quiet. You should respond to those letters.

I would like to say that there is a need to pay attention to these two things. One is, FEMA has taken over FERA. The Foreign Exchange Regulation Act has been withdrawn and the Foreign Exchange Management Act has come into existence. But, still, prosecutions are continuing. This only indicates two persons of same parity are being treated unequally. This is not a good sign. Kindly look into this problem and see to it that the FERA prosecutions, which are still continuing are withdrawn as early as possible. If a small amendment is required, kindly see to it that it is carried out.

As far as the coins are concerned, Tamil Nadu is having a lot of demand. I don't know about it in North India. As far as Tamil Nadu is concerned, there are a lot of problems in getting small coins. My suggestion is, up to Rs.10, let the denominations be only in coins, instead of currency notes. Let it be only in coins.

As far as certain taxation proposals are concerned, I see a reduction in the rate of foreign liquor.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA): It is five o'clock now. I would like to take the sense of the House whether we can continue with the debate. Shall we complete this Bill?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE (West Bengal): Let the Finance Bill be complete and then we can adjourn.

SHRI N. JOTHI: I understand the mood of the House. Sir, as far as liquor imports are concerned, there is a reduction from 210% to 182%. I don't know the logic behind it.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: The logic is in the Budget Speech; because of the WTO obligations, it had to be reduced, which I have said in the Budget Speech itself. You don't have to look elsewhere.

SHRI N. JOTHI: We need not be always submissive to the WTO. If that is the explanation, this is my answer to that. The WTO need not control us. I don't see the logic behind liquor duties reduced and the LPG rate increased. I don't see any logic behind it. I don't know the answer

forthcoming from the Finance Minister on this. There is an increase of Rs.40 per cylinder while there is a reduction in the liquor duties. Still I say that.

Sir, one more small request. The cement manufacturers' cartel is very much in vogue in Tamil Nadu. Tamil Nadu is producing a lot of cement, but it is in the hands of very few. You know who they are. They are having a cartel among them. They are making artificial increase in the price. Kindly import cement liberally, by reducing the import duty from 20% to 10% so that the cement cartel is cracked down. People are suffering in Tamil Nadu because of the cement cartel. Kindly pay your attention on that. Ask some of your colleagues in your Cabinet not to favour those cement cartel people. If you want me to name them, I will do it in your office so that it would be helpful to you in looking into them.

As far as Tirupur is concerned, a lot of hosiery items are being exported. Hosiery items were a pioneering area in the export. They were exported from Tirupur to foreign countries. Now the exports have come to a standstill. Your attention may kindly be paid on it so that Tirupur hosiery works are saved and it is again brought back to the earlier position. Kindly concentrate on the hosiery items so that Tirupur area is saved and Tamil Nadu is brought over to the export map once again.

Sir, I thank you very much, once again, for the opportunity given. I hope, next time, the Chair will give me a little reasonable time, in the morning hours and little more time in the evening. Thank you very much.

श्री रमा शंकर कौशिक (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं इस वित्त विधेयक 2002 का विरोध करने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूं। श्रीमन्, बजट किसी भी सरकार के द्वारा आता हो, लेकिन वह केवल गठजोड़ का समूह नहीं होता है, वरन् वह एक ऐसा दस्तावेज होता है जिससे हम उस वर्ष अपने देश को किस दिशा में ले जाना चाहते हैं, उसका आभास देता है। मुझे बड़े अफसोस के साथ कहना पड़ रहा है कि पिछले दस सालों से लगातार भारत की सरकारें जिस एक खूंटे से टकराती चली जा रही हैं, उसी एक खूंटे से इस वर्ष भी बजट के जरिए से यह सरकार भी टकराती हुई दिखाई दे रही है। अभी माननीय मंत्री जी ने कहा कि डब्ल्युटीओ की जरूरतों के कारण हमने सीमा शुल्क उस पर से घटाया है, सारा संकट इसी बात का है। हम अपने देश को कहां ले जा रहे हैं । 80 के दशक से हमारे देश का जो आर्थिक ढांचा है, जो हमारे देश की अर्थव्यवस्था है, उसकी रीढ़ किसान हैं। लेकिन किसानों की स्थिति इन दस सालों में लगातार क्या हुई है, इसको माननीय मंत्री जी के आंकड़े ही बता देते हैं कि 80 के दशक में हमारी खेती की वृद्धि, हमारी खेती के अनाज की वृद्धि 3.7 प्रतिशत प्रति वर्ष थी, वह अब 1.5 प्रतिशत रह गयी है । वह दस सालों में लगातार घटती जा रही है और 80 के दशक में जब डब्ल्यू.टी.ओ. का चक्कर नहीं था, जब भूमंडलीकरण का चक्कर नहीं था, तब हमारे देश की तरक्की खेती के मामले में हो रही थी। खेती के मामले में तरक्की की बात मैं इसलिए कह रहा हूं

कि आज हमारे यहां हमारे देश में हमारे सकल घरेलू उत्पाद का केवल 24 प्रतिशत खेती का हिस्सा रह गया है । सकल घरेलू उत्पाद में हमारे यहां खेती का हिस्सा जहां 60 प्रतिशत रहता था, वहां अब 24 प्रतिशत रह गया है । 24 प्रतिशत रहना अपने आपमें कोई खराब बात नहीं है, इसको मैं खराब नहीं कह रहा हूं लेकिन हमारे देश में प्रश्न यह है कि यह 24 प्रतिशत हिस्सा हमारे देश की 75 प्रतिशत आबादी का है । हमारे यहां देश में 75 प्रतिशत लोग खेती पर निर्भर करते हैं । यह मैं जानता हूं कि सकल घरेलू उत्पाद में दूसरे देशों में खेती का मामूली हिस्सा रह गया है । विकसित देशों में केवल 3 प्रतिशत रह गया है लेकिन वहां पर खेती पर कितने लोगों की निर्भरता है, प्रश्न इस बात का है । ऐसी स्थिति में जब 75 फीसदी लोगों का हिस्सा हमारे सकल घरेलू उत्पाद में केवल 24 फीसदी रह जाएगा तो निश्चित रूप से 75 फीसदी लोग हमारे उस सकल घरेलू उत्पाद का उपभोग नहीं कर पाएंगे और आज नतीजा यही है कि हमारे देश में जितनी उपभोग की वस्तुएं हैं, उनमें उन चीजों में से 86 फीसदी चीजों का उपभोग 14 प्रतिशत लोग करते हैं और 86 फीसदी लोग 14 प्रतिशत चीजों का उपभोग करते हैं। कारण यही है। आज मंदी क्यों है ? हमारे उद्योग ठप्प होते चले जा रहे हैं । हम डब्ल्यू.टी.ओ. के चक्कर में, भूमंडलीकरण के चक्कर में अपनी सारी योजनाओं को उन आधारों पर बनाते चले जा रहे हैं जिन आधारों से हमारे देश की अर्थव्यवस्था चौपट हो रही है । श्रीमन्, यह मामूली रकम का सवाल नहीं है । चार लाख, दस हजार तीन सौ आठ करोड़ रुपये का मामला है । इससे हम देश की दिशा निश्चित कर रहे हैं और देश की दिशा निश्चित करते वक्त हम अपने किसानों के 75 फीसदी लोगों का ऐसा नुकसान कर रहे हैं जिसके कारण हमारे देश में दूसरी जो चीजें हैं - चाहे वह उद्योग हों, चाहे छोटे उद्योग हों, वह ठप्प होते चले जा रहे हैं । महोदय, आयोजनागत जो इन्होंने खर्चा रखा है, वह केवल 1 लाख, 13 हजार, 500 करोड़ का है और गैर योजनागत 2 लाख, 98 हजार, 809 करोड़ रुपये का है । जब योजना के ऊपर खर्च नहीं होगा - सीमा शुल्क की बात इन्होंने कही, विडंबना देखिए कि हमारे देश में आयात बढ़ रहा है, दूसरे मुल्कों की चीजें हमारे देश में आ रही हैं - चाहे वे छोटे उद्योगों के जरिए बनकर आ रही हों, चाहे जींसों के रूप में आ रही हों, अनाज के रूप में आ रही हों, आटे के रूप में आ रही हों, बटर ऑयल के रूप में आ रही हों, तेल के रूप में आ रही हों, तिलहन के रूप में आ रही हों - हमारा सीमा शुल्क घटता चला जा रहा है । आयात बढ़ रहा है लेकिन आयात से हमारे शुल्क में कमी होती चली जा रही है । अभी तक 12 प्रतिशत हिस्सा आयात शुल्क का हमारे यहां बजट में होता था, अब वह घटता चला जा रहा है और दस प्रतिशत रह गया है । यह स्थिति क्यों है ? जैसा मंत्री जी ने कहा कि डब्ल्यू.टी.ओ. के कारण है । डब्ल्यू.टी.ओ. की नीतियों के कारण अगर हमारे देश का आर्थिक ढांचा बिगड़ता है तो हम क्यों ऐसे मजबूर हो रहे हैं कि बिना डब्ल्यू.टी.ओ. के, बिना भूमंडलीकरण के हम जिंदा नहीं रह सकते । जब हम देख रहे हैं कि पिछले दस सालों से लगातार हमारे आर्थिक ढांचे में गिरावट आ रही है, लगातार खेती में गिरावट है, लगातार और बातों में गिरावट है लेकिन फिर भी हम उन्हीं नीतियों पर चलते चले जा रहे हैं । सब्सिडी के मामले में देख लीजिए । कितनी सब्सिडी देते हैं ? यूरोप के देश अपने सकल घरेलू उत्पाद का 40 फीसदी सब्सिडी किसानों को देते हैं । हमारे यहां केवल 9 प्रतिशत दी जा रही है लेकिन फिर भी डब्ल्यू.टी.ओ. की शर्तें हमारे ऊपर हैं कि सब्सिडी को भी खत्म कर दो । हमारे मंत्री जी कहते हैं कि आप अपना उत्पादन बढ़ाइए । आप अपने देश में कंपीटीशन लाना चाहते हैं, निर्यात के ज़रिए किसान की हैसियत को बढ़ाना चाहते हैं लेकिन निर्यात कैसे होगा ? निर्यात की स्थिति आज है क्या दुनिया में? दुनिया में स्थिति यह है कि 80 के दशक में जहां बहुराष्ट्रीय कंपनियों

का निर्यात व्यापार दुनिया के निर्यात व्यापार का 25 फीसदी था, सन् 1995 में उनका हिस्सा 33 प्रतिशत हो गया और आज की तारीख में बहुराष्ट्रीय कंपनियों का निर्यात का कारोबार दुनिया के निर्यात के कारोबार का 50 फीसदी हिस्सा है और वह बढ़ता चला जा रहा है । आप उस निर्यात के ज़रिए से किसान की हैसियत बढ़ाना चाहते हैं तो आपको अपनी गुणवत्ता ठीक करनी पड़ेगी । आप किसानों की सबसिडी खत्म करते चले जा रहे हैं। आपके देश में पोटाश नहीं है जो खेती की उर्वरकता को बढ़ाता है, आपके देश में फॉस्फोरस नहीं है जो खेती की उत्पादकता को बढ़ाता है । आप उस ओर कोई ध्यान नहीं दे रहे हैं । आप अपने यहां की इकाइयों को बंद होने दे रहे हैं जो हमारे देश में खाद बनाती हैं और विदेशों के लिए आपने 500 करोड़ रुपया रख दिया कि हम 500 करोड़ रुपया बाहर से खाद मंगाने के लिए रखते हैं । उस दिन रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्री कह रहे थे कि हमारे यहां डिमांड ही नहीं रही । डिमांड क्यों नहीं रही ? इसलिए नहीं रही कि हमारे काश्तकार इस हैसियत में नहीं हैं कि वे इस ढंग के उर्वरकों को खरीद सकें । इसलिए हमारे यहां उर्वरक कम इस्तेमाल हो रहे हैं और खेती में हमारे उर्वरक कम होते चले जा रहे हैं । सरकार अपनी इकाइयों को खोलने के बजाय 500 करोड़ रुपए रख रही है कि हम विदेशों से आयात करेंगे, यह कौन सी तुक है?

श्रीमन्, जब हमारे देश में ऐसी स्थितियां हैं तब सरकार अपना खर्चा घटाने के लिए भी तैयार नहीं है । बजट का 17 फीसदी खर्चा सरकार के दफ्तरों पर होता है और इस 17 फीसदी खर्चे को घटाने के लिए सरकार तैयार नहीं है । बचत के मामले पर मंत्री जी ने कहा कि मैंने आपके 10 हज़ार करोड़ रुपए बचाए । लेकिन उस 10 हज़ार करोड़ रुपए में से 5 हज़ार करोड़ रुपए तो वे हैं जो रक्षा मंत्रालय ने खर्च नहीं किए । जो उसे 62 हज़ार करोड़ रुपया पिछले साल दिया गया था, उसमें से वह केवल 57 हज़ार करोड़ रुपया ही खर्च कर पाया, 5 हज़ार करोड़ रुपया वापस आ गया । उसी को इन्होंने बचत में दिखा दिया कि हमने यह सरकारी खर्चा कम किया है । लेकिन ये सरकारी खर्चों में कमी नहीं कर रहे हैं । हमारे ऊपर उधार बढ़ता चला जा रहा है । उसका ब्याज भी हमारे ऊपर बढ़ता जा रहा है और यह सरकार चाह रही है कि हम डब्ल्यू.टी.ओ. की सारी शर्तों को मानते चले जाएं, भूमंडलीकरण कर दें। हमारे देश में जो खेती का उत्पादन हो रहा है, उसमें गुणवत्ता लाने की ज़रूरत है । उसके लिए आप कोई उपाय नहीं कर रहे हैं । आप कहते हैं कि हम तिलहन और दलहन की क्रांति करेंगे । दो क्रांतियां हमारे देश में हो चुकी हैं, हरित क्रांति और श्वेत क्रांति । यह बात सही है कि दुनिया के देशों में आज जो दूध पैदा होता है, हर देश के मुकाबले हमारे यहां ज्यादा पैदा होता है लेकिन हमारे यहां मिलता कितना है, इसका हिसाब कोई नहीं लगाता । हमारे यहां कितना पशु-धन है, इसका भी कोई हिसाब नहीं लगाता है । खैर, हम मान लेते हैं कि हरित क्रांति भी हो गई और श्वेत क्रांति भी हो गई । अब तीसरी क्रांति लाना चाहते हैं दलहन और तिलहन के ज़रिए । दलहन की स्थिति यह है कि हम वाकयी उतनी उपज पैदा नहीं कर रहे हैं जितनी कि हमें ज़रूरत है । हमें बाहर से मंगाना पड़ता है और आम आदमी उसे इस्तेमाल करता है । पनीर की सब्जी आम आदमी नहीं खा पाता और जो दूसरी महंगी सब्ज़ियां हैं, उनको भी आम आदमी नहीं खा पाता । वह दाल से अपना गुज़ारा करता है । जो किसान लोग हैं, वे दाल ही खाते हैं । तो दाल पर जो आयात शुल्क है, वह तो बढ़ा दिया और शराब पर घटा दिया । जो हमारी आवश्यकता की चीज़ है, उस पर आयात शुल्क बढ़ा दिया । तिलहन की स्थिति यह है कि 50 फीसदी तिलहन या तेल हमें आयात करना पड़ता है । उसके लिए सरकार क्या कर रही है ? कौन सी स्कीम इस बजट के ज़रिए आप देंगे जिससे हमारे यहां दलहन और तिलहन का उत्पादन बढ़े ? तिलहन के मामले में

केवल एक मिसाल दूंगा कि जहां एक बात मंत्री जी कह रहे हैं कि हम तिलहन बढ़ाएंगे, वहां स्थिति यह है कि तिलहन के उत्पादन के लिए 2001-2002 में 84.7 करोड़ का प्रावधान था जो इस वर्ष 44.52 करोड़ कर दिया गया है, घटा दिया गया है । राष्ट्रीय तिलहन और वनस्पति तेल विकास बोर्ड को 5 करोड़ रुपए 2001-2002 में दिए गए थे, उसमें से 1.25 करोड़ रुपए घटा दिए गए । तिलहन की स्थिति यह है कि तिलहन के लिए आप इस बात को कह रहे हैं कि हम एक तीसरी क्रांति लाएंगे । इसी प्रकार से पॉम आयल विकास कार्यों के लिए पिछले साल 8.25 करोड़ रुपए का प्रावधान था जो इस साल केवल 4.15 करोड़ रुपए कर दिया गया है ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री संतोष बागड़ोदिया) : अब खत्म कीजिए ।

श्री रमा शंकर कौशिक : हां, मैं खत्म कर रहा हूं । ऐसी स्थिति में एक बात कहकर मैं अपनी बात खत्म करूंगा और वह यह है कि यह बात सही है कि करों और शुल्कों में जो पैसा केंद्र सरकार की ओर से राज्य सरकार को जाता है वह कुछ योजनागत कार्यों के लिए जाता है । यह तीन तरीकों से जाता है शुल्कों के रूप में, करों के हिस्से के रूप में जाता है और योजना के लिए मदद करते हैं । इन्होंने योजना की मद में एक प्रतिशत राशि बढ़ाई है, मैं इसका स्वागत करता हूं, बहुत अच्छा किया है । लेकिन करों और शुल्कों के हिस्से में से एक प्रतिशत घटा दिया है । राज्य सरकार वहीं की वहीं है । राज्य के पास उतना ही पैसा है । जहां उसने एक प्रतिशत बढ़ाया है वहीं एक प्रतिशत घटा दिया है । एक और बहुत खराब बात जो की गई है, वह यह है कि माननीय मंत्री जी ने इस बजट के जरिए यह तय किया है जो राज्य इनकी नीतियों को मानेगा, उदारीकरण और भूमंडलीकरण की नीतियों को मानेगा, उसे वे एक प्रतिशत और बढ़ाकर राशि देंगे । यह भेदभाव क्यों ? यह हमारे फेडरल सिस्टम के अनुरूप नहीं है । जो स्थितियां हैं, आगे भी ऐसी स्थितियां रहनी हैं कि केंद्र में किसी और पार्टी की सरकार होगी, राज्यों में किसी और पार्टी की सरकारें होंगी । ऐसी सिथति में यह भेदभाव करना कि जो इनकी नीति को स्वीकारेगा, उसे ये एक प्रतिशत अनुदान बढ़ाकर देंगे, यह एक बहुत गलत कदम है । फेडरेल सिस्टम के खिलाफ है । इसके लिए मैं मंत्री जी से निवेदन करूंगा कि इसे अपने बजट प्रावधान से हटा दें तथा दूसरी अल्प बचतों पर इन्होंने जो कटौती की है, पिछले तीन वर्षों में दो प्रतिशत हो गई है, उस ब्याज दर को उसी स्थिति पर ले जाएं। इस साल जो आधा प्रतिशत ब्याज दर अल्प बचतों पर कम की है, उसे खत्म करके आधा प्रतिशत बढ़ाएं । इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं इस वित्त विधेयक का विरोध करता हूं । धन्यवाद ।

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE (West Bengal): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I would speak for a couple of minutes only, to seek just one clarification from the hon. Finance Minister in regard to extension of The Income Tax Act to the State of Sikkim. I am told that this Act had been extended to the State of Sikkim in 1989, but, till date, it has not been operationalised. In other words, nobody is paying any income-tax. For the last 13 years it remains unoperational. Sometimes, a very peculiar problem creeps in. For certain appointments clearances from the Department of Income-Tax are needed. I would not mention names here, but nobody is paying income-tax. When it has not been operationalised, it becomes very difficult to give the income-tax clearance certificate. I think the Finance

Minister already has received a situation report like this, or he will be confronted with a situation like that. So, I would like to know as to how this issue is going to be resolved. This is one aspect. You know, since Sikkim was one of the new States, certain protections were extended to them. So far as Central Tax laws, including the income-tax, is concerned, most of them were not extended to the States which were largely dominated by tribal population. But the non-tribals were to pay the income-tax. It did not appear that there would be a situation like that wherein a whole area, the Act would not be operationalised at all. I do not know whether my information is correct or not. But somebody told me that it has happened like that. In this connection, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minster to one general proposition which should be looked into. At the initial stage of development, both in regard to the Central Excise and the direct taxes, it was thought that if tax exemptions are given, especially in the Central Excise, then entrepreneurs may be interested in going and setting up their factories, their industrial units, and that will be help them to generate employment and economic activities in backward areas. But from the experiences, it has been found that most of these companies, which availed this opportunity, used this as some sort of a tax evasion method. So, instead of helping the States to industrialise, they used it as a devise to avoid the taxes, and certain corrections were made in the subsequent years. Unfortunately, sometimes, the State Governments supported this move. Here, I think, the Finance Minister can have an in-depth discussion with the State Chief Ministers and tell them that they will be losing on both fronts. If taxes were realised from the States, they would get a little larger share, and by tax exemption, only the exchequers are losing, and the States are not going to be benefited. So, I think, a fresh look should be given to the whole issue. I would not like to disturb the applecart, but it could be done through the persuasive skill of the hon. Finance Minister. We are going to launch the Tenth Five Year Plan, of course, it is already in operation, and most of the States will have serious fund shortages. Keeping that in view, if the additional resource mobilisation exercises could be done through this route, then, these types of embarrassing situations, which sometimes do arise because of the non-operation of the Central laws, could be avoided. This matter should be looked into. This is my humble submission for the consideration of the hon. Finance Minister. Thank you.

डा. रमेन्द्र कुमार यादव रवि (बिहार): माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, "ना" के पक्ष में खड़ा हूं। विरोध करने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूं। लेकिन विरोध में भी हमारी अपेक्षा है सरकार से माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी से कि मैं बिहार से आता हूं। अत्यल्प समय में विस्तार और गहनता से विमर्श नहीं

हो सकता है, बातें नहीं कही जा सकतीं। कम समय में मैं चाहूंगा माननीय वित्त मंत्री का ध्यान आपके माध्यम से आकृष्ट करूं। भाषण शुरू करूं उसके पूर्व वे बातें निवेदन करना चाहूंगा जिनमें सारी बातें आ जाती हैं जिन्हें मुरली देवड़ा जी ने, माननीय रमा शंकर जी ने उठाया। मैं आपके माध्यम से कहना चाहूंगा -

"बढ़ने दो देश को, बंद करो ये दंगे।
देने दो वस्त्र उन्हें जो घूम रहे हैं नंगे
देने दो अन्न उन्हें जो अधपेटे सरपट भूखे हैं
काम, रोजगार, बेकारी, अशिक्षा, अंधकार, बीमारी
करने दो दूर उन्हें, चलने दो सुदूर उन्हें
गढ़ने दो इतिहास देश का, नव्य बिहान रचाने को।"

आज विकास की दरें, अगर मैं माननीय भाई रमा शंकर जी को याद करूं कि तिलहन और दलहन को हम बढ़ाना चाहते थे तो 84 से 44 पर, आधे पर चले आए। इससे सरकार की मंशा स्पष्ट होती है। आयात होता है लेकिन शुल्क में कमी आ रही है। यह आर्थिक उदारीकरण का प्रभाव है या विदेशी नियंत्रण, समझ नहीं पाते हैं। आज सभी वक्ता इस बात को कबूल करेंगे, देश कबूल करेगा, प्रेस दीर्घा कबूल करेगी कि इस देश के 80 फीसदी लोग कृषि पर आधारित हैं। कृषि के बिना उनका जीवन सूना है, सूखा है। जहां तक उद्योगों की बात है, संसार के विकसित देशों से हम बहुत पीछे हैं। हम अमेरिका, इंग्लैंड, फ्रांस या जापान से अपनी तुलना नहीं कर सकते हैं। हमारी आर्थिक रीढ़ हमारी खेती है। चाहे वह आन्ध्र हो, कर्नाटक हो, बंगाल हो या वह बिहार हो, उद्योग विहीन भारत में आज जो किसानों की त्रासदी है उसकी भरपाई हम कृषि से, खेती से करते आ रहे हैं। लेकिन जो किसान की समस्या है उसमें मैं आपका ध्यान बिहार की ओर ले जाना चाहूंगा। माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी एक अत्यंत ही मेधावी छात्र रहे हैं पटना विश्वविद्यालय के और हमारा सौभाग्य है कि हम लोग समकालीन हैं। इनके साथ पिकनिक भी हम गंगा के उस पार मनाते रहे हैं । इसलिए उस वित्त मंत्री जी से, जो हम लोगों के आदर्श थे, हमारे सीनियर थे, ये और मणि जी, आज उनसे मैं कहना चाहूंगा, आप बिहार को जानते हैं, बिहार का बंटवारा हुआ, आर्थिक समृद्धि, प्राकृतिक संपदा, सब कुछ लेकर झारखंड अलग हुआ और बच गया हमारे यहां बालू, पानी, बाढ़ और सुखाड़ । त्रासदी और विडंबना यह है कि बाढ़ और सुखाड़ वहां एक साथ आती है, ऐसा देश के अन्य भू-भाग में नहीं होता । बिहार बंट जाने के बाद जो शेष बिहार है, अगर हम चाहें और सरकार की कृपा दृष्टि हो तो हम उसकी माली हालत को सुधार सकते हैं और वहां समृद्धि ला सकते हैं । जैसा अभी तमिलनाडु के भाई ने कहा और डॉ0 जय ललिता का उदाहरण दिया कि उन्होंने पत्र लिखा, तो मैं भी कहना चाहूंगा कि बिहार का जब बंटवारा हुआ तब 1.79 करोड़ की मांग की गई थी, लेकिन उसका आंशिक भी अब तक हम लोगों को नहीं मिला है। शेष बिहार में नौकरीपेशा लोग भी हैं, वहां निर्माण और विकास की डगर आज बंद है । आज बेरोज़गारी की समस्या के कारण, चाहे वह कश्मीर हो, चाहे वह नॉर्थ ईस्ट हो या बिहार हो या पंजाब हो, हर जगह आतंकवाद हैं । यह भीतर का असंतोष ही है, भीतर की हीनता और कुंठा है, अपनी पहचान बनाने के लिए लोग आतंक का रास्ता अपनाते हैं । आज अगर बेरोज़गारी की समस्या का निदान हो सकता है तो वह खेती के जरिए ही हो सकता है। मैं स्मरण दिलाना चाहूंगा, बहुत पहले माननीय इंदिरा गांधी ने जॉब ओरिएंटड एजुकेशन की बात की थी, लेकिन त्रासदी यह है कि जिस इंजीनियर को पढ़ाने के लिए आज हमारा 16 लाख

रुपया खर्च होता है और एक डाक्टर को पढ़ाने में 18 लाख रुपया एक वर्ष में खर्च होता है, उसको भी आज हम नौकरी देने की स्थिति में नहीं हैं। हमारे मुल्क में जो टैक्नीकली एजुकेटेड है, मान्यवर, वे भी नौकरी नहीं पा रहे हैं । जो इंजीनियर और डॉक्टर हैं, उन्हें भी सरकार नौकरी नहीं दे सकती है । उन्हें आज हम बेरोज़गार होते देख रहे हैं । जिस डॉक्टर, इंजीनियर को पढ़ाने में सरकार का 16 लाख और 18 लाख रुपया प्रत्येक वर्ष खर्च होता है, उनको ही आज अगर नौकरी नहीं मिल रही है तो आर्ट्स और कॉमर्स फैकल्टी के जो लोग हैं उनके साथ क्या बात होती होगी, इसकी हम सहज ही कल्पना कर सकते हैं । बिहार में कृषि विकास की बहुत संभावना है, जैसे वॉटर लॉगिंग है, हम फिशिंग उद्योग वहां कर सकते हैं, बिहार में नदियां बहुत अधिक हैं, इसलिए हम वहां कोकोनट की खेती भी कर सकते हैं । अगर केन्द्र सरकार की सहायता बिहार सरकार को प्राप्त हो तो बिहार में हम कोकोनट की खेती को डिवेलप कर सकते हैं, फिशिंग इंडस्ट्री को बढ़ा सकते हैं। इसलिए वॉटर मैनेजमेंट के लिए, एम्प्लायमेंट के लिए मैं पुन: कहना चाहूंगा और बिहार में सब से बड़ी त्रासदी नेपाल से आने वाली बाढ़ है । बाढ़ से एक हजार करोड़ की प्रत्येक वर्ष क्षति हो रही है । बिहार, वह तो सीमा पर भी है, इसलिए इस उद्देश्य से भी उसको डिवेलप किया जाना चाहिए क्योंकि जिन आंतरिक खतरों से आज जो नेपाल की स्थिति है, माओवादी मारे जा रहे हैं, वे लोग भी मार रहे हैं, हमारे बिहार में तो वे कभी भी आ सकते हैं, वहां न कोई ऐसा प्रतिबंध है और न सड़कें ऐसी हैं कि कम से कम हम उन पर काबिज हो सकें और सरकार ध्यान दे सके । इसलिए मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी से यह आग्रह करना चाहूंगा कि नेपाल से आनी वाली बाढ़ के लिए, बांध बनाने के लिए एक बहुत बड़ी राशि की जरूरत है । इस के लिए नेपाल और भारत की सरकारों को मिलकर समाधान ढूंढना होगा । अगर वहां बांध बनेगा तो उस से सब से बड़ी सुविधा बिजली के उत्पादन की होगी । महोदय, आज भाषण में शीत-गृह निर्माण की बात कही गयी, लेकिन मैं समझता हूं कि चीनी की बात या गुड़ की बात तभी हो सकती है जब कि हम ईख की खेती करें । आज जब हमारे यहां बिजली का उत्पादन नहीं हो रहा है तो फिर हम शीत-गृह की कल्पना कैसे कर सकते हैं ? महोदय, बाढ़-बिहार में एन0टी0पी0सी0 की इकाई का उद्घाटन बड़े ताम-झाम से हुआ था और माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी भी वहां गए थे, लेकिन दो वर्षों से उस पर कोई काम शुरू नहीं हुआ है । महोदय, राज्य सरकारें कितनी आर्थिक तंगी के दौर से गुजर रही हैं, यह हम सभी जानते हैं और जहां तक धन के बंटवारे का प्रश्न है, वह समुचित ढंग से नहीं हो पा रहा है । उस में पक्षपात होता है । किसी को अधिक धन दिया जाता है और किसी को कम दिया जाता है । इसलिए केन्द्र सरकार को इस मामले में बहुत ही संतुलित, न्यायप्रिय, विवेकवान और ईमानदार होना चाहिए और जो जरूरतमंद राज्य हैं, उन को अधिक धन दिया जाना चाहिए । उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैं यहां किसी का नाम नहीं लेना चाहूंगा क्योंकि वह इस सदन के सदस्य नहीं हैं, मुख्य मंत्रियों की बैठक में धन के बंटवारे का विरोध किया गया था और कहा गया कि ऐसा बंटवारा नहीं होना चाहिए जिस में जिस को जरूरत है, उस को अधिक न दिया जाए । महोदय, घटक दलों के दबाव में आकर हमारे हक को छीना जा रहा है । महोदय, बिहार पिछड़ा हुआ है, शेष बिहार विपन्न है, गरीब है और आर्थिक तंगी से गुजर रहा है, इसलिए मैं अपने समकालीन, अपने अग्रज माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी से पुन: आग्रह करना चाहता हूं कि उन के जो भी संस्कार हैं, जो भी उन की मेधा है, वह झारखंड की नहीं है, वह बिहार की है, पटना विश्वविद्यालय की है । इसलिए वह बिहार पर अधिक ध्यान देंगे और याद रखेंगे कि उन के एक कनिष्ठ मित्र ने इस संबंध में आग्रह किया था । धन्यवाद ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री संतोष बागड़ोदिया) : श्री ललितभाई मेहता। You have ten minutes please.

श्री ललितभाई मेहता : उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, वित्त विधेयक 2002-2003 का समर्थन करते हुए मैं माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी को उन के बजट प्रस्तावों के बारे में कई बिंदुओं पर बधाई देना चाहूंगा । महोदय, वित्त मंत्री जी ने कृषि और ग्राम विकास के क्षेत्र को ध्यान में रखकर व आधारभूत संरचनाओं के क्षेत्र को भी ध्यान में रखकर प्रस्ताव किए हैं । पर्यटन उद्योग के विकास के लिए भी उन्होंने चिंता जताई है और राज्य सरकारों की नाजुक स्थिति को ध्यान मे रखते हुए उन के बजट प्रस्तावों के कारण राज्यों को अधिक धनराशि मिले, इस का प्रावधान भी इन बजट प्रस्तावों में उन्होंने किया है । कृषि के क्षेत्र में आवागमन पर सभी पाबंदियां हटा ली गयी है, निर्यात पर जो नियंत्रण लगे थे वह भी हटाए गए हैं और एक लाख पच्चीस हजार परिवारों को माइक्रोक्रेडिट के दायरे में लाया गया है । कृषि के क्षेत्र में 10 हजार करोड़ रुपए की वृद्धि कर के उसे 75 हजार करोड़ रुपए मिलें ऐसा प्रावधान कृषि क्षेत्र के लिए किया गया है । साथ-ही-साथ ग्रामीण विकास की दृष्टि से और 25 सौ करोड़ रुपए ग्राम सड़क योजना के तहत और सिंचाई के क्षेत्र मे 2 हजार करोड़ से बढ़ाकर 2 हजार 8 सौ करोड़ रुपए कर दिए गए हैं । रोजगार के अवसर उपलब्ध कराने के लिए हमारी गृह निर्माण की योजनाओं में भी बढ़ोतरी का हमारे वित्त मंत्री जी ने काफी ध्यान रखा है । उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, कई बजट प्रस्ताव ऐसे थे जिन के कारण सामान्य जन-मानस की प्रतिक्रियाएं आई थीं और हमारे गणमान्य सांसदों के मन में भी कई विचार आए थे । देश के विभिन्न आर्थिक क्षेत्र में काम करने वाले संगठनों के मन में जो धारणाएं बनी थीं, वह सब बातें जब वित्त मंत्री जी के पास रखी गईं तो उन बातों को ध्यान में रखकर उन्होंने अपने ही बजट प्रस्तावों में जब लोकसभा में सात आठ दिन पहले वित्त विधेयक प्रस्तुत किया तो उसमें कई रियायतें देने की घोषणा की, जिनमें साइकल पुर्जो की बात आई, हैंडपंप की बात आई, खिलौनों की बात आई, रूफिंग टाइल्स, ऑडियो कैसेट की बात आई । हमारा गुजरात का जो डेयरी एक महत्व का उद्योग है, उस पर हम चाहते थे कि करटम ड्यूटी बढ़ाकर 40 प्रतिशत की जाए, जो उन्होंने मानकर की । पोस्टल रेट के लिए जो अनेक लोगों ने अपनी बात रखी थी, उसको उन्होंने ध्यान में रखा । एक हजार रुपए तक डिविडेंड पर टैक्स की बात उनके सामने रखी गई तो वह भी उन्होंने मान ली, टैक्स हटा लिया और इन्वेस्टमेंट करने की जो लिमिट 80,000/- रुपए थी उसे बढ़ाकर 1,00,000/- रुपए तक करके मध्यम और गरीब वर्ग के लोगों को उन्होंने रियायत देने की बात की । इन सब बातों के लिए मैं समझता हूं कि हमारे वित्त मंत्री जी बधाई के पात्र है ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, सार्वजनिक ट्रस्टों के बारे में और धार्मिक ट्रस्टों के बारे में जो आयकर अधिनियम की धारा 11(ए) और (बी) है, उसमें तीन बातों के लिए कुछ सुझाव रखे गए थे। उन तीन बातों में से एक तो यह कि जो कोई भी ट्रस्ट, न्यास अपनी आय की 25 प्रतिशत राशि इकट्ठा कर सकती थी, एकयुमिलेट कर सकती थी, उसको हटाने की बात थी, लेकिन अब वह 15 प्रतिशत तक उस आय को इकट्ठा कर सकती हैं, एकुमलेट कर सकती हैं । ऐसी रियायत उन्होंने दी है । मैं वित्त मंत्री जी से यह अपेक्षा करुंगा कि जो दो और बिन्दु उसमें आते हैं, उस पर भी आप ध्यान दें । एक तो यह कि जो भी आय न्यास को आती है, उस आय को उसको उसी वर्ष में एप्लीकेशन कर देना चाहिए, जो ऐसी बात आई है, उस पर पुनर्विचार करने की आवश्यकता इसलिए है कि न्यास को उस साल में कितनी आय होगी इसकी अपेक्षा करके वह

कोई कार्यक्रम बना सके और उसको इंपलीमेंट कर सके, ऐसी परिस्थिति नहीं रहती है । इसमें यह हो सकता है कि दूसरे साल में, जब न्यास अपनी रिटर्न भरे, उस रिटर्न भरने के समय तक की उनको छूट दे दी जाए कि वह उस आय का एप्लीकेशन कर सके । दूसरी बात जो इसमें आई है, कोई भी न्यास अपनी एकुमलेशन दूसरे किसी ट्रस्ट को यानी किसी हास्पीटल को नहीं दे सकेगा, किसी सामाजिक संस्था को नहीं दे सकेगा, किसी शैक्षणिक संस्था को नहीं दे सकेगा । मैं समझता हूँ कि सामाजिक और शैक्षणिक क्षेत्र में काम करने वाले छोटे छोटे न्यास जो हैं उन पर यह बड़ी मुश्किल की बात होने की संभावना है और इसलिए मैं चाहूंगा कि जिस न्यास को पांच साल तक अपनी एकुमलेशन इकट्ठा करने की छूट थी और अगर वह किसी दूसरे न्यास को देते हैं तो उस न्यास को जो डोनेशन मिला है, उसमें डोनी ट्रस्ट का जो समय बचा है, दो साल का बचा है या तीन साल का बचा है वहां तक उसका उपयोग वह कर सके । ऐसी अगर उनको छूट दे दी जाए तो मुझे लगता है कि हमारे सामाजिक क्षेत्र में जो अनेक विकास के काम चलते हैं और शैक्षणिक क्षेत्र में जो विकास के काम चलते हैं, उन कामों को आगे बढ़ाने में बहुत मदद मिलेगी । ट्रस्ट के बारे में यह जो बातें मैंने आपके सामने रखी हैं, उसको वित्त मंत्री जी, आप ध्यान में रखें, ऐसी मेरी आपसे प्रार्थना है ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, वित्त मंत्री जी ने आधारभूत संरचनाओं के क्षेत्र में, रोड ट्रांसपोर्ट और हाइवे के लिए गत साल में जो 9,890 करोड़ रुपए रखे थे , उसे बढ़ाकर आपने इस साल 13,080 करोड़ रुपए का प्रावधान बजट में रखा है, पावर के क्षेत्र में जो गत साल आपका 3700 करोड़ रुपए का प्रावधान था, उसे बढ़ाकर आपने 13,483 करोड़ रुपए कर दिया है और इसी तरह पोर्टस के लिए आपने इस साल रुपए 10,570 करोड़ रुपए का प्रावधान रखा है । इन आधारभूत संरचनाओं के आधार पर देश में रोजगार के अनेक अवसर बढ़ने की संभावना है । मेरा यह मानना है कि रोजगार के अवसर बढ़ने की दृष्टि से और आर्थिक विकास की दृष्टि से यह बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण कदम रहेगा ।

राज्यों की नाजुक वित्तीय स्थिति को ध्यान में रखते हुए इस साल योजना का जो प्रावधान किया गया है, उसमें 22 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि इस बजट प्रस्ताव में वित्त मंत्री जी ने की है और केन्द्र से परिष्कृत जो योजनाएं हैं उनमें भी इन्होंने 9,875 करोड़ से बढ़ाकर 10,105 करोड़ कर दिया । इसको अगर ध्यान में रखें तो केन्द्रीय करों और योजना की जो राशि रखी गई है, उसमें 52,845 करोड़ से बढ़कर 61,235 करोड़ रुपए राज्यों को मिलेंगे और राज्यों को जो कुल राशियां आबंटित होती थीं वे पहले 1,38,964 करोड़ थीं जो अब 15.5 प्रतिशत बढ़कर 1,60,563 करोड़ हो जाएंगी और यह राज्यों की नाजुक वित्तीय स्थिति में बहुत बड़ी मदद दे सकती है ।

डायरेक्ट टैक्सिस, प्रत्यक्ष करों के बारे में मैं दो-तीन सुझाव रखना चाहूंगा । जो छोटे-छोटे मछुआरे समुद्र में जाते हैं उनको प्रिज़ेम्टिव टैक्स के दायरे में ले लेना चाहिए क्योंकि वे अनपढ़ रहते हैं, उनका धंधा सीज़नल रहता है, उनके पास हिसाब-किताब रखने की कोई परिस्थिति नहीं होती है । इन बातों को ध्यान में रखते हुए हमारे प्रिज़ेम्टिव टैक्स का जो प्रावधान है, उसको ध्यान में रखते हुए 44 (एएफ) में अगर कंट्री क्राफ्ट ओनर का समावेश कर दिया जाए तो बड़ी सहायता मिलेगी । वैसे भी सैक्शन 234 (ए), 234 (बी) और 234 में जो इंटरेस्ट लेवी है उसमें कई बातें ऐसी सामने आई हैं जिनसे पता चलता है कि डिस्क्रिमिनेशन हो रहा है । इसका भी रेशनलाइजेशन करके इन तीनों सैक्शन्स पर जो डिस्क्रिमिनेशन होता है, वह खत्म कर दिया जाना चाहिए ।

कई माननीय सदस्यों ने ब्याज-दरों में जो आधा प्रतिशत कटौती करने की बात बजट प्रस्ताव में आई है, उसको ध्यान में रखते हुए अपने सुझाव दिए हैं कि इस कटौती से मध्यम वर्गीय लोगों को, सेवा-निवृत्त लोगों को जो आय मिलती है, वह कम हो जाएगी जिससे उनको बड़ी मुश्किल होगी । मेरे पास बिजनेस वर्ल्ड का एक आर्टिकल है, उसमें रिअल इंटरेस्ट कैसे तय किया जाता है, उसको ध्यान में रखते हुए जो आब्जर्वेशन किए गए हैं, उसको मैं क्वोट करना चाहूंगा :-

> "The world over, it is consumer price inflation, rather than wholesale price inflation, that is considered when the real interest rate is calculated. A revealing bit of analysis carried in one of the pink papers recently shows that if consumer prices are taken into consideration, India has one of the lowest interest rates in the world."

और उसमें रिज़र्व बैंक के भूतपूर्व गवर्नर, श्री सी0 रंगराजन, जो आंध्र प्रदेश के महामहिम राज्यपाल हैं, उनका हवाला देते हुए यह बात कही गई है कि :-

> "During his term as governor of the Reserve Bank of India, C. Rangarajan once told me in the course of an interview that real interest rates tend to equal the growth rate in an economy. That's a useful thumb rule to use in the current debate. If economic growth falters, then real interest rates should decline.
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> And if the economy picks up speed, real rates should go up in tandem. A failure to raise rates in tandem with the growth rates could create a bubble economy, as was seen in the US a few years ago."

हमारा ग्रोथ रेट 5 प्रतिशत के करीब है और अगर हम उस 5 प्रतिशत के ग्रोथ रेट को ध्यान में रखेंगे तो हमारे यहां जो इंटरेस्ट रेट है, जो करीब 10 या 9 प्रतिशत रहना चाहिए, इससे भी कम है । इसको ध्यान में रखते हुए आप अगर इसके बारे में भी कुछ सोचेंगे तो मुझे लगता है कि इससे काफी सहायता मिलेगी ।

मैं एक-दो छोटी-छोटी बातें और कहना चाहूंगा कि ट्रस्ट के बारे में एक प्रावधान सैक्शन 272(ए) ii(ई) में है, जिसमें है कि कोई भी न्यास अगर किसी कारण से अपनी रिटर्न फाइल करने में देरी करता है तो जितने दिन देरी हुई, उतने दिनों तक 100 रुपए या 200 रुपए प्रतिदिन की उनको पेनल्टी लगेगी । उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैं एक पिंजरा पोल ट्रस्ट का अध्यक्ष हूं । दस साल पहले तक वह बंद पड़ा था, दस साल से उसके हिसाब का आडिट नहीं हुआ था, अब सभी हिसाब आडिट कराकर जब इन्कम टैक्स रिटर्न फाइल करने की बात आई तो इन्कम टैक्स आफिसर ने मुझे कहा कि अब तक 25,54,000 रुपए आपकी पेनल्टी बन गई है । उन्होंने 10 साल पहले से गिना । इसलिए मुझे लगता है कि जो जेनुइन केसेज हैं, उनको ध्यान में रखते हुए यह सैक्शन 272 (a)(ii)(e) में रिटर्न फाइल करने की जो बात है, उस पर फिर से गौर किया जाना चाहिए ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं एक और बिंदु की ओर आपका ध्यान दिलाकर अपनी बात खत्म करूंगा । महोदय, हमारी कंसलटेटिव कमेटी की जो बैठक हुई थी, उसमें भी मैंने यह बात कही थी कि ऐसी धारणा बनी हुई है कि इस वक्त करीब 9 लाख करोड़ रुपए का काला धन हमारी अर्थव्यवस्था में चल रहा है । अगर इस काले धन को आर्थिक व्यवस्था में लाना है तो जैसे भूतकाल में 3 बार, 4 बार इसके लिए स्पैशल स्कीम लाई गई थी, वैसी ही स्कीम लाने की जरूरत है । मेरे मित्रों ने बताया कि अगर यह स्कीम लाई जाए तो इससे सरकार को मदद मिल सकती है । आप सबको यह कह दीजिए कि स्टेट बैंक ऑफ इंडिया और इसके ग्रुप के जो दूसरे बैंक हैं, उनमें लोग अपना काला धन जमा करवा दें । उसके ऊपर उनको पहले 3 साल, 4 साल या 5 साल तक कोई इंट्रस्ट नहीं मिलेगा । पांच साल के बाद उन्होंने जो मूल राशि जमा करवाई होगी, उसे वे वापस ले सकेंगे । अनुमान है कि इसके कारण करीब ढाई लाख करोड़ रुपए से लेकर 3 लाख करोड़ रुपए तक की राशि बैंकों में आएगी और उस राशि का उपयोग सरकार अपने विकास के कामों के लिए कर सकती है । सरकार को एक भी पैसा ब्याज में नहीं देना पड़ेगा और इसके कारण 25-30 हजार करोड़ रुपए का जो ब्याज का बोझ सरकार के ऊपर है, वह भी कम होगा । अगर ऐसी कोई योजना बनाई जा सकती है तो उस पर भी विचार करना चाहिए ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं एक और बात की ओर आपका ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं । वैसे इसका सीधा ताल्लुक इस वित्त विधेयक से नहीं है लेकिन इसका ताल्लुक वित्त मंत्रालय से अवश्य है । महोदय, गुजरात के दो सवाल हैं जिनकी ओर मैं माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहूंगा । महोदय, 1993 से लेकर आज तक गुजरात के क्रूड ऑयल रॉयल्टी के फाइनल रेट्स डिसाइड नहीं हुए हैं । हमारा अनुमान है कि अगर ये रेट्स डिसाइड हो जाएं तो इसके ऐरियर्स की राशि करीब 800 करोड़ रुपए से लेकर एक हजार करोड़ रुपए तक होगी । ये रेट्स अभी तक डिसाइड नहीं हुए हैं । हमारे पेट्रोलियम और गैस मंत्रालय के वरिष्ठ मंत्री श्री राम नाईक जी ने हमें आश्वासन दिया था कि 31 मार्च तक यह राशि तय कर दी जाएगी और गुजरात को ऐरियर्स की जो धनराशि देनी होगी, वह हम अवश्य देंगे । आज तक इसका निर्णय नहीं हुआ है । आप जानते हैं कि गुजरात आज बहुत ही नाजुक आर्थिक स्थिति के दौर से गुज़र रहा है । इसलिए आपको तुरंत इसका निर्णय करना चाहिए । हमारी अपेक्षा यह है कि प्रधानमंत्री जी ने दंगापीड़ित लोगों के लिए जो डेढ़ सौ करोड़ रुपए की राशि की घोषणा की है, उसे बढ़ाकर अगर 500 करोड़ रुपए कर दिया जाए तो वहां पर पुनर्वास का काम बहुत अच्छी तरह से हो सकेगा और पर्याप्त मात्रा में हो सकेगा। आपने मुझे इस वित्त विधेयक पर बोलने का अवसर दिया, इसके लिए धन्यवाद ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री संतोष बागड़ोदिया) : मिर्जा अब्दुल रशीद जी, आप बोलिए । मुझे बताया गया है कि आप जल्दी में हैं । इसलिए आप कृपया 4 मिनट में समाप्त कीजिए ।

†**मिर्जा अब्दुल रशीद (जम्मू और कश्मीर)** : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, वित्त मंत्री जी ने जो बजट प्रस्तुत किया है, मैं इसकी सपोर्ट में खड़ा हुआ हूं । इसमें कोई शक नहीं है कि 100 करोड़ लोगों की तकदीर संवारने के लिए बैलेंस्ड बजट बनाना बहुत मुश्किल होता है । मंत्री जी

† Transliteration of the speech in Persian Script is available in the Hindi version of the debate.

ने काफी प्रयास करने के बाद बहुत हद तक यह बैलेंस्ड बजट पेश किया है और लोगों के हित में दो बार इन्हें रोल-बैक भी करना पड़ा है । फिर भी मिडिल क्लास के लोग इस बजट से नाखुश हैं।

महोदय, यह सच है कि हमारे देश में 38 प्रतिशत अनपढ़ लोग हैं और हमारी आबादी का 1/3 हिस्सा गरीबी की रेखा के नीचे है लेकिन इसके बावजूद जहां तक बजट का ताल्लुक है, मंत्री जी ने बहुत अच्छा बजट पेश किया है । महोदय, हमारे इस विशाल देश के सामने बहुत मुश्किलें आती हैं । देश के किसी हिस्से में तूफान आते हैं और किसी हिस्से में कारगिल की तरह जंग होती है । इस वक्त भी जम्मू-कश्मीर की रियासत में प्रॉक्सी वॉर चल रहा है । पंजाब में जो दहशतगर्दी हुई या गुजरात में जो तबाही हुई, ये सारे धक्के देश को लगते हैं । अगर आप 10 कदम आगे बढ़ते हैं तो इन धक्कों की वजह से 10 कदम पीछे भी जाना पड़ता है । इन सब चीजों के बावजूद क्योंकि मुझे अपनी स्टेट के लिए कुछ बातें कहनी हैं, ज्यादा टाइम मेरे पास नहीं है। मैं यह कहूंगा कि हमारी रियासत जम्मू कश्मीर जो कुदरत ने बड़ी खूबसूरत बनाई है इसको मिलिटेंसी ने बड़े वीराने में बदल दिया है। यहां जितनी भी इण्डस्ट्रीज हैं -टूरिज्म इण्डस्ट्री हो, हेण्डीक्राफट्स हो या फ्रूट इण्डस्ट्री हो या कोई भी किसी किस्म की जो भी इण्डस्ट्री है, वह खत्म हो चुकी हैं इस मिलिटेंसी की वजह से, दहशतगर्दी की वजह से और सारा इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर तबाह हो चुका है। मुझे इस वक्त जो मंत्री जी की निगाह में लाना है वह अफसोस की बात है कि नाईंथ फाइव ईयर प्लान में 10 हजार करोड़ रुपया प्लानिंग कमीशन ने सैंक्शन किया था जम्मू कश्मीर की रियासत के लिए और 5 साल में 10 हजार करोड़ रुपया के बजाय सिर्फ 5 हजार करोड़ रुपए के जो रिसोर्सेज थे, वह डवलपमेंट के लिए दिए गए और 5 हजार करोड़ रुपया नहीं दिया गया। एक तो मैं इसकी वजह जानना चाहता हूं कि ग्रह क्या वजह है? यह वर्किंग सीजन की वजह से है या कौन सी कमियां हैं? दूसरे मैं इनसे यह गुजारिश करुंगा कि अगर नाईंथ फाइव इयर प्लान में यह पैसा नहीं दिया जा सका तो कम से टेंथ फाइव इयर प्लान में इस कमी को पूरा किया जाए। हालांकि सच यह है कि वहां पिछले 15 साल से प्रोक्सी वार चल रही है और आज भी बदस्तूर चल रही है बजाए इसके स्पेशल इकॉनोमिक पैकेज देना चाहिए था, जैसे नॉर्थ ईस्टर्न स्टेट्स को दिया गया या पंजाब को दिया गया। उसके बजाए जो प्लानिंग कमीशन ने बाकायदा रकम सैंक्शन की उससे भी आधा हिस्सा हमें मिला। यह बहुत अफसोस की बात है। हालांकि कश्मीर नेशनल प्रोब्लम है और नेशनल प्रोब्लम होने की वजह से जो सिक्योरिटी रिलेटिड फंड्स हैं, मैं इनसे गुजारिश करुंगा कि वह नेशनल बजट में प्रोवाइड करना चाहिए ताकि वहां पर जिस कदर भी लोग हलाक हुए हैं और मिलिटेंट्स ने हलाक किए हैं, उनके वारिसों को क्लास फोर की पोस्ट भी नहीं मिलती है क्योंकि जम्मू कश्मीर की रियासत के पास पैसा नहीं है। दूसरी बात मैं जो गुजारिश करना चाहूंगा...**(व्यवधान)**... (समय की घंटी)

अभी तो मुझे एक मिनट ही हुआ है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री संतोष बागड़ोदिया) : चार मिनट हो चुके हैं।

†**मिर्जा अब्दुल रशीद** : मैं यह अर्ज कर रहा था कि जम्मू कश्मीर की रियासत में जो हमारी हॉर्टिकल्चर इंडस्ट्री है उससे 25 लाख लोगों को रोजी-रोटी मिलती है और हमें उससे सालाना 250 करोड़ रुपए का फॉरेन एक्सचेंज मिलता है और 60 करोड़ रुपए का टॉल टैक्स भी मिलता है। अगर नॉर्थ ईस्ट स्टेट की तरह से यहां भी लिया जाए तो यह चार गुना बढ़ सकता है

† Transliteration of the speech in Persian Script is available in the Hindi version of the debate.

और फॉरेन एक्सचेंज भी बढ़ सकता है। लेकिन वह नहीं हो सका। सबसे बड़ी बात यह है कि जितने भी एग्रीकल्चर प्रोडक्टस हैं उस पर इंश्योरेंस स्कीम है लेकिन जम्मू कश्मीर में यह जो हॉर्टिकल्चर इंडस्ट्री है इस पर इंश्योरेंस स्कीम नहीं है। हम चाहेंगे कि इसको भी इंश्योरेंस स्कीम में लाया जाए। जम्मू कश्मीर में हमारे जो पंडित भाई माइग्रेंट्स हैं उनके लिए जम्मू कश्मीर की सरकार ने एक प्रोजक्ट भेजा हुआ है ताकि इनको रि-हेबिलिटेट किया जाए। लेकिन एक साल से वह प्रोजक्ट मरकजी सरकार के पास पड़ा हुआ है। मैं चाहूंगा कि उस प्रोजक्ट को सैंक्शन करें ताकि आहिस्ता-आहिस्ता यह जो हमारे कश्मीर के लोग हैं जो मुल्क में दर-बदर हैं उनको रि-हेबिलिटेट किया जाए और उनकी जितनी भी मुश्किलें हैं उनको दूर किया जाए। 1947 में जो रिफ्यूजी पाकिस्तान से आए थे आज तक जम्मू कश्मीर में उनको रि-हेबिलिटेट नहीं किया जा सका है। मुखतलिफ सरकारों ने पैकेज एनाउंस किए लेकिन आज तक उनको कोई पैकेज नहीं मिला। हम चाहेंगे कि उनको अच्छे ढंग से रि-हेबिलिटेट करने के लिए कम से कम जो पैकेज एनाउंस हुए हैं उनको प्रेक्टिकली इम्प्लीमेंट किया जाए। इस वक्त जो इंडस्ट्री का पैकेज दिया गया है जम्मू कश्मीर की रियासत के लिए हम उसके लिए सरकार को मुबारकबाद देते हैं। वह नए कामों के लिए प्रोजक्ट दिया गया है। मिलिटेंसी की वजह से वहां पर जो तबाही हुई है और जितने यूनिट वहां पर सिक पड़े हुए हैं उन पर जो कर्ज है या जो वहां के लोगों ने लोन लिया हुआ है वह एक्जेम्प्ट नहीं किया जाएगा तो वह सिक यूनिट रि-हेबिलिटेट नहीं हो सकते हैं। हम चाहेंगे कि किसी तरीके से जो मिलिटेंसी की वजह से सिक यूनिट तबाह हुए हैं उनको रि-हेबिलिटेट करने के लिए जो लोन है उसको एक्जेम्प्ट किया जाए, वरना जो नया पैकेज दिया गया है उसका कोई खास बेनिफिट होने वाला नहीं है। हम एक और बात की मुबारकबाद देते हैं कि हमारी मरकजी सरकार ने, फाइनेंस मिनिस्ट्री ने और खास कर हमारे प्राइम मिनिस्टर साहब ने हमें रेलवे का नेशनल प्रोजक्ट उधमपुर से लेकर कश्मीर तक दिया है। हम यह चाहेंगे कि यह तीन फेजेज में बनाने के लिए गवर्नमेंट ने डिक्लेयर किया है जिस पर फौरी तौर पर काम शुरू किया जाए। इसी तरह जो नेशनल हाइवे प्रोजक्ट है कन्या कुमारी से कश्मीर तक उसको कश्मीर से ही शुरू किया जाए। मुगल रोड जो सेंटर और स्टेट में फिफ्टी-फिफ्टी बेसिस पर मानी हुई है इस पर काम शुरू किया जाए। वहां जम्मू-काश्मीर की रियासत में जो पहाड़ी कोठारी बोलने वाले लोग हैं, उनका जो केस यहां पर एस0सी0 डिक्लियरेशन के लिए पड़ा हुआ है, उसको भी डिक्लियर किया जाए। जम्मू-काश्मीर की रियासत में जो अन-इम्पलायमेंट है, उसको दूर करने के लिए राज्य के जो एस0टी0डी0 बूथ सेक्योरिटी के पाइंट आफ व्यु से बंद किए गए थे, जिसके कारण वहां के हजारों लोग बेरोजगार हो गये हैं, उनकी रोजी-रोटी का मसला है, उसको रेस्टोर किया जाय और अन-इम्पलायमेंट के लिए एक स्पेशल पैकेज दिया जाय। आनरेबुल प्राइम मिनिस्टर साहब ने इसी हाउस में अनाउंस किया था कि वह कश्मीर आ रहे हैं, उनका बड़ी बेताबी से वहां के लोग इंतजार कर रहे हैं, क्योंकि उनके वहां जाने से हजारों गम कम होंगे। उनके जाने से पहले जो मैंने गुजारिशें की हैं, अगर ये चीजें हो जायें तो उनका वहां पहुंचने पर लोग उनका बड़ी अच्छी तरह से स्वागत करेंगे। प्रधान मंत्री जी उनकी मुश्किलें वहां पर कम करके आयेंगे। हमारे माननीय मंत्री जी जो फाइनेंस बिल लाये हैं मैं उसकी सपोर्ट करता हूं। धन्यवाद ।

6.00 P.M.

श्री रमान्डला रामचन्द्रय्या (आन्ध्र प्रदेश): धन्यवाद उपसभाध्यक्ष जी। जो वित्त विधेयक माननीय मंत्री जी ने प्रस्तुत किया है, उसको हमारी पार्टी की ओर से हम सम्पूर्ण मदद करते हैं। लेकिन उसके विषय में कुछ सूचनायें, कुछ विषय जो जनता बाहर कहती है, उन विषयों को मैं सदन के सामने आपके माध्यम से वित्त मंत्री के समक्ष कुछ अच्छे कार्य करने के लिए, कुछ सुझाव प्रस्तुत करता हूं। उदाहरण के तौर पर जो भी भाषण यहां पर देते हैं, यह कहते हैं कि भारत देश की रीढ़ की हड्डी किसान है, लेकिन बजट बनाते समय जो गरीब किसान गांव में बसते हैं, गांव में अपनी कठिनाइयों को झेलते हुए हमें अन्न पैदा करके देते हैं, उनके बारे में बजट में जितने प्रावधान करने चाहिए, जितनी सुविधाएं देने का प्रावधान करना चाहिए, उतनी सुविधाएं उनके लिए नहीं दे पा रहे हैं। उदाहरण के तौर पर फसलों के ऊपर या क्रॉप इन्श्योरेंस के बारे में सोचा जाये तो केन्द्र सरकार को अपने बजट में जितनी धनराशि उनके लिए रखनी चाहिए, जितना प्रोत्साहन उनको देना है, जितनी मदद और लाभ किसानों को पहुंचना चाहिए, उतना उन तक नहीं पहुंच पा रहा है। उदाहरण के रूप में, आप बजट को देखिए। बजट को देखने से यह पता चलता है कि यह धनवानों का बजट है या नगरवासियों का बजट है। यह बजट गरीबों का नहीं है, गांवों के सुधार का नहीं है। अगर आप गांवों की दशा सुधारना चाहते हैं, क्योंकि गांव में रहने वाले 75 फीसदी लोग किसान हैं जो खेतीबाड़ी में काम करते हैं। किसान के परिवार के सभी लोग खेतीबाड़ी में मेहनत करते हैं, मजदूरी करते हैं, काम करते हैं, उस पर भी उनको जितना अन्न प्राप्त होना चाहिए, उतना प्राप्त नहीं होता है। उनको रहने के लिए मकान, पहनने के लिए कपड़ा और खाने के लिए अनाज प्राप्त नहीं होता है। उसको दृष्टि में रखते हुए भारत देश में जो भी बजट बनाया जाता है, उसमें गांव की ओर से, मंडल की ओर से, कांस्टीट्युअंसी की ओर से एक मास्टर प्लान मंगाकर उनको सुविधाएं पहुंचाने की स्कीमें तैयार करनी चाहिएं। तभी भारतवासियों को लाभ हो सकता है अन्यथा आपका बजट हमेशा पेपर्स में दिखाई देता रहेगा। आज धनवान और धनवान होता जा रहा है, लेकिन किसान गरीब से गरीब होता जा रहा है क्योंकि किसान खेतीबाड़ी छोड़कर, गांव छोड़कर कहीं और दूसरे काम करने के लिए जा रहा है। जैसी की आज की परिस्थिति में रशिया में खाने के लिए अनाज नहीं मिलता है, उसी तरह से कुछ सालों के बाद भारत में भी अपने बजट के कारण भविष्य में खेतीबाड़ी करने वाले शायद नहीं मिलेगें और खाने के लिए अनाज भी नहीं मिलेगा। इसको दृष्टि में रखते हुए मैं वित्त मंत्री, भारत सरकार से यह मांग करता हूं कि आप जो भी बजट बनाते हैं, तैयार करते हैं तो उस वक्त इस देश के किसानों को दृष्टि में रखना आवश्यक है। उसके खेतीबाड़ी करने के ऊपर, बीजों के ऊपर हो या कपास के ऊपर हो, ऑयल गुड्स के ऊपर हो, कोई भी चीज हो, चाहे वह गेहूं के ऊपर क्यों न हो, पेडी के ऊपर क्यों न हो, वह मेहनत करके तैयार करता है, उसके लिए जितना प्रावधान रखना चाहिए, उतना बजट में नहीं रख रहे हैं। दूसरा जो बुनकर है। जो भी बुनकर के लिए बोलता है कि यह करूंगा, वह करूंगा, लेकिन बजट में उसको देखते हैं तो शून्य होता है। आप मार्डनाइजेशन के लिए, यंत्रों को आधुनिक बनाने के लिए करोड़ रुपये दे रहे हैं। लेकिन जब हैंडलूम वाला कपड़ा तैयार करता है, कपड़ा बेचने जाता है तो उसका खरीददार नहीं है । वह कपड़ा कैसे बेचेगा ? वह कपड़ा तैयार करते समय धागा, रंग और डाई का इस्तेमाल करता है, उसके लिए बजट में कुछ नहीं है। आजकल एक नया नाम निकाला है "दीनदयाल हथकरघा बुनकर योजना" ! उसमें पढ़ते जाओ, कागज काले करते जाओ, अक्षर भरते जाओ लेकिन बुनकरों को कुछ नहीं मिलता और केवल बुनकरों के नाम से हैंडलूम डिपार्टमेंट में जो काम करता है, उसे

कर्मचारी को तनख्वाह मिलती है । उसको बुनकरों को सताने के लिए अवकाश मिलता है पर केन्द्र सरकार से जो प्रावधान मिलने चाहिए, वे नहीं मिल पाते हैं । जो स्कीमें उनके नामों से हैं, वे बुनकरों तक नहीं पहुंच पा रही हैं । उदाहरण के रूप में जो दीनदयाल हथकरघा बुनकर योजना है, उसके लिए आंध्र प्रदेश से पचास करोड़ से कुछ कम की योजना यहां पर भारत सरकार के पास आयी है। उसी तरह अन्य राज्यों से भी आयी है लेकिन उसको केवल लिख-लिखकर वापिस भेजते रहते हैं और धन का प्रावधान नहीं होता है । रकम देने के लिए वित्त मंत्री से प्रावधान होना चाहिए और वित्त मंत्री जी को बुनकरों के लिए जितना बजट रखना चाहिए था, उतना बजट नहीं रखा है । आज हैंडलूम में काम करने वालों की सही स्थिति के बारे में अगर हमें मालूम करना है तो भारत सरकार की ओर से कुछ ऐसे लोगों को, पार्लियामेंट के सदस्यों की एक कमेटी बनाकर अपने सभी राज्यों में भेजनी चाहिए । आप पंजाब में, बिहार में, हरियाणा में, मध्य प्रदेश में, तमिलनाडु में, कर्नाटक में, आन्ध्र प्रदेश में उन्हें भेजिए और देखिए कि बुनकरों की स्थिति क्या है ? वे क्या कर रहे हैं ? जैसे जैसे दिन बढ़ रहे हैं, बुनकरों को मिलने वाली सुविधाएं घट रही हैं । आज बुनकरों की स्थिति ऐसी है कि न उनके पास खाने के लिए खाना है, न पहनने के लिए कपड़ा है, न रहने के लिए घर है और अगर झोपड़ी है तो उसमें दीया जलाने के लिए तेल तक नहीं है लेकिन उनके लिए कोई प्रावधान नहीं है । जो सफेद कपड़े पहनकर आता है, जो मिल का मालिक है, उसको हजारों करोड़ों रुपये की छूट भारत सरकार की ओर से दी जाती है लेकिन गांव में रहने वाले बुनकर चाहे वे किसी भी राज्य में हों, उस राज्य में कोई भी पार्टी सत्ता में हो, उनके लिए कोई सोचने वाला नहीं है । महोदय, आन्ध्र प्रदेश में बुनकरों के हित के लिए हमारे मुख्य मंत्री श्री चन्द्रबाबू नायडू ने 30 परसेंट रिबेट देकर उनका पूरा माल बिकवा दिया है । उसी तरह से भारत सरकार को भी एक पॉलिसी बनाकर उनको रिबेट देनी चाहिए, उनके लिए अलग से पैसा देना चाहिए ताकि उनका कपड़ा बाजार में बिक सके, खरीदने वाले उसे जल्दी खरीदें, बुनने वाले और कपड़ा तैयार करें जिससे उनकी स्थिति में सुधार हो सके। आज इस रास्ते पर कोई भी जाने के लिए तैयार नहीं है । उसी तरह कोऑपरेटिव सैंट्रल बैंक हैं । जहां भी जाओ उनका दीवाला निकल रहा है । न खेतीबाड़ी वाले को धन मिलता है, न हथकरघा वाले को मिलता है न कमजोर लोगों को मिलता है । वे झूठे नाम लिखते जाते हैं और पैसे लूटते जाते हैं इसलिए हमारे कानूनों को बदलना चाहिए । हमारे फाइनेंस बिल में जो सुविधाएं गरीबों के लिए रखनी चाहिए थीं, वे न रखकर धनवानों के लिए रखी गयी हैं इसलिए कोऑपरेटिव सैंट्रल बैंकों का भी दीवाला निकल रहा है । उसी तरह से मैं बिजली के संबंध में कहना चाहता हूं । एक पार्टी कहती है कि हम मुफ्त में बिजली दे देंगे और दूसरी जगह बहुत ज्यादा दाम होते हैं । इस संबंध में एक नैशनलाइज्ड पॉलिसी होनी चाहिए कि भारत सरकार की बिजली की यह पॉलिसी है और भारत में किसी भी राज्य में किसी भी जगह इस दाम पर बिजली मिलेगी । (**समय की घंटी**) महोदय, आज गांवों में बिजली सही ढंग से प्राप्त नहीं होती और नगरों में अच्छी तरह से मिलती है । दिल्ली में वी.आई.पी. एरियाज़ में बिजली अच्छी तरह से आती है और गरीब की झोपड़ी में बिजली नहीं होती । (**समय की घंटी**) इसलिए बिजली के संबंध में भी हमारे बजट में प्रावधान होना चाहिए । महोदय, एक मुख्य बात कहकर मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करूंगा । आप बार-बार अपनी उंगली घंटी पर रखने की तकलीफ न कीजिए । आज राज्य अगर ठीक हैं तो सैंटर, केन्द्र मिथ्या है । स्वर्गीय एन.टी.रामाराव जी ने कहा था । सैंटर क्या है, मिथ्या है । राज्य अगर बलवान है तो भारत देश की राजधानी भी बलवान होगी। आज जितनी भी आमदनी है, वह केन्द्र अपने पास रखता है और राज्यों को केवल 27 प्रतिशत ही दे रहा है ।

आज हर राज्य के मुख्य मंत्री को जो धनराशि यहां से दी जाती है, वह कर्मचारियों को देने में ही बराबर हो जाती है । वे वैलफेयर ऐक्टीविटीज़ क्या करेंगे ? गरीबों की उन्नति के लिए धनराशि कहां से खर्च करेंगे? इसलिए भारत सरकार को अपने धन से पचास फीसदी धनराशि राज्यों को देना आवश्यक है । अगर आप 50 फीसदी धनराशि नहीं देंगे तो राज्यों में वहां परिपालन करने वाले मुख्य मंत्री या सरकार, कोई भी पार्टी हो, वह वेलफेयर स्कीम नहीं ला सकती । आप कितना भी कहें, कुछ भी करें, करते समय बजट में उन राज्यों को दृष्टि में रखें कि वहां के लोगों को, कर्मचारियों को तनख्वाह देने के बाद कम से कम 20 परसेंट बचे ताकि उससे गरीबों के वेलफेयर के लिए, गरीबों की अच्छाई के लिए, गरीबों की उन्नति के लिए, उस राज्य की उन्नति के लिए वहां की सरकार स्वतंत्र रूप से कुछ काम कर सके । ये शब्द कहते हुए मुझे जितना समय मिलना था, मेरी पार्टी को जितना समय मिलना था, उतना समय आप नहीं दे रहे हैं, इसलिए मैं बैठ जाता हूं ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री संतोष बागड़ोदिया) : आपको जितना समय मिलना था, उससे ज्यादा समय मिला है ।

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDI (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, in brief, I want to put forth my viewpoints on this Bill.

Sir, inflation is going down day by day. Of course, for a layman like me, or for anybody who reads the newspapers, we do feel happy that the inflation rate is going down every month by points. It has come to two or three per cent. Perhaps, it is for the first time in the history of our country that it has come down to this level. But the reality is that it is not good for a country to have such a low rate of inflation. Low inflation means that the purchasing capacity of the people of this country has gone down considerably. It is not at all good; a totally misleading impression is being created that the inflation rate has gone down and, therefore, the country's economy is in a very good shape. But, on the other hand, when the purchasing capacity goes down, it means that the entire system has collapsed. Every industry, be it, textiles, cement, chemicals or fertilisers, it is all in a bad shape. If we take the Indian industry, every industry is in trouble. Sir, I have heard the Budget speech of the Finance Minister three times; twice when I was in the Lok Sabha and once here. I want the Finance Minister to tell us where he has gone wrong. He must explain what the remedy is. How do we get back to the glorious past of the success of industrial growth? Sir, another thing is, even if we start any new industry, nobody is prepared to buy shares in the Indian market. Hence, no new industry is able to come up. So, no new industry is coming up and the existing industries are in a bad shape with the result that there is no employment. There is frustration amongst the youth and they are going on

the wrong track. In such a situation, what is going to happen to the future of this country is my question.

The next point is regarding the Industrial Development Bank of India, which is the prime institution of the country. It has always maintained its image and reputation in giving loans for industries. Today, this is also in a bad shape. So, I urge upon the Government that they must rebuild the IDBI. If, psychologically, one feels that the IDBI is in a bad shape, then, it will give a negative impression in the world market and they would wonder how to have business here, how to start industry here. Sir, it is not that I am supporting the industry or that I am supporting the rich men. I am, indirectly, supporting the poor man because the poor man's life cannot prosper unless the industrial growth rate goes up. Both are interlinked with each other. Some friends would also mistake me when I plead for industrial growth saying "पैसे वाला तो पैसे की बात करेगा ।" वह गलत है । इस समाज में हर गरीब को सुख देना चाहिए और उसका पारिश्रमिक बढ़ा देना चाहिए । The next point is that a lot of foreign aid is coming to India from IMF, World Bank, Japanese Bank and so on. But it is sad to note that when it comes to disbursement, the Central Government takes a lot of time in disbursing it to the States. Whatever be the reasons for it, I request the Finance Minister to see to it that the money reaches the States in time. It would be very, very unfair if the money does not come immediately to the States and the Centre does not reimburse it.

I will make my last point, Sir, and I will not take more time of the house. Today, the entertainment industry is the biggest industry in the world. Entertainment industry means, the television, films and so on. We are proud of the Indian film industry; it is one of the topmost industries in the world. Of course, Yashwantji has promised many things for the film industry several times. Ever since he became the Finance Minister, he has stated many times here, and in the Lok Sabha also, that he will give priority to the film industry, especially in the case of borrowing facilities, that any other industry enjoys. He has given the instructions also. But, कुछ नहीं, ज्यादा नहीं हो रहा है। So, I want to urge upon you that you must fulfil your promise by giving full Government support so that the Indian film industry can achieve more growth; so that it can be in a position to beat the Hollywood. Therefore, despite the interest that you have already shown and the motivation that you have to help the film industry, you must find out to what extent the banks and financial institutions have given the facilities to the film industry and the film-makers. And I will be very happy if you could continue to do it in future also.

Lastly, our dream is to see to it that unemployment is eliminated. The frustration that is there in the minds of our youth should go away. After graduation, the young people become frustrated when they find there are no jobs. There are no jobs. There is no industrial growth and there are no jobs. On the one hand, the existing industries are becoming sick, and, on the other, there are no opportunities for the growth of new industries. The two things are happening simultaneously. Thirdly, the people from all over the world, who were really fascinated and inspired to come to India and invest here, have lost their interest totally. We do not find many investors coming to India now, because of various reasons into which I do not have the time to go.

So, to sum up, I want to say to the hon. Finance Minister that he must concentrate on industrial growth and on how the industries can come up in the future. Thirdly, he must make efforts to see to it that the investors who want to come to India and invest here are motivated and inspired and that they are given all the facilities. Lastly, the film industry should be given the top priority. Thank you, Sir

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA): Thanks for the cooperation. Shri S. Viduthalai Virumbi. You have got seven minutes.

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, thank you very much for having given me an opportunity to express my views on the Finance Bill. I also hope that you will be as considerate in my case as you have been so far.

Sir, the total receipts in this Budget amount to Rs.4 lakh crores. Out of that, the tax revenue is Rs. 1,73,000 crores. The fiscal deficit amounts to Rs. 1,35,000 crores, of which the primary deficit is only Rs.18,000 crores. It clearly shows that our interest payments are more than Rs.1,17,000 crores. This is a little disturbing trend. But we still hope that the hon. Finance Minister is capable of handling this situation.

Sir, as far as the growth rate of our GDP is concerned, according to the Central Statistical Organisation's advance estimates, it was 5.4 per cent. The reason attributed by the RBI of this 5.4% growth rate of GDP -- through its Microeconomic and Monetary Development Report released about three or four days back said that agriculture had contributed much -- its growth rate amounts to 5.7%. Sir, even though the CSO'S estimate of our growth rate is 5.4 per cent, the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific has put our growth rate at six per cent.

Therefore, I feel, the UNCTAD has used the word 'immune' for India and China. In this recession period, the word 'immune' implies the development made by India as well as China.

Sir, at the same time, we have to see the other side of it. I think we have again come under the priority watch list of America, under Special 301. Sir, we can be proud of our reserves. There is no doubt that we have reserves of 11 billion dollars. I think it is only the purchasing currency of the dollar. Some people say that it is only to prevent the appreciation of rupee in the exchange market. If it is so, the hon. Finance Minister should enlighten us about it in his reply.

Sir, after the Budget was presented, some sops were announced by the hon. Finance Minister. He has increased the Income-tax rebate to 15 per cent. The five per cent service tax on insurance has been withdrawn. The excise duty on bicycles, hand pumps, toys and umbrellas has also been withdrawn. We are grateful to the Finance Minister for that. The ceiling on savings for getting tax rebate has been increased from Rs.80,000/- to Rs.1 lakh. The ceiling for investment in tax-free Government relief bonds in the case of Pensioners is Rs.2 lakh. It is also a welcome measure.

Sir, when it is so, the non-food credit which was 14.9 per cent in 1999-2000 has come down to 12.8 per cent. But the non-food credit for the banks is now projected between 15 and 15.5 per cent by the Reserve Bank of India. The Reserve Bank of India has not enumerated the reasons how it is going to be enhanced from 15 to 15.5 per cent. I hope the hon. Finance Minister will explain it to us.

Sir, as far as the Government securities are concerned, the banks hold Government securities to the tune of 36.5 per cent of the total advance paid, even though the minimum requirement for the commercial banks is 25 per cent. It means, the banks hold Government securities to the extent of more than 11.5 per cent of the minimum requirement. It may be due to security reasons, for the amount which they are lending.

As the time at my disposal is short, I would like to say something about my State. Sir, the textile sector is in the doldrums. Previously, there was a five per cent excise duty on textiles. With 15 per cent surcharge on excise duty, it was only 5.75 per cent. Two years back, it was enhanced to eight per cent. Then, the effect of the excise duty was 9.2 per cent. When it comes to ten per cent, the yarn produced in the organised sector becomes uncompetitive in the market. I hope the hon. Finance Minister would look into this. As far as the hank yarn issue is concerned, I have explained it

personally to the Finance Minister. Therefore, I don't want to explain it again and again. I hope the Finance Minister will reply to the representation on the hank yarn issue which we have made to him.

In addition, there are some other areas. Sir, leather industry provides good employment opportunities in Tamil Nadu. What the Government has done, I would like to quote from that. It states, "Earlier the leather garment makers could import up to three per cent of their exports as duty free embellishment. The EXIM Policy extended this concession to the entire industry. But the concession was rolled back to one per cent. This makes the option unviable." This is the observation made by the industry. I hope the hon. Finance Minister would go into this and revert back to the three per cent free import facility. Sir, at the same time, I appreciate a provision, wherein charitable trusts can accumulate 15%.

Now, you are restructuring the banks. When you are restructuring the banks, I would like to tell you one thing. IndBank Housing has some eleven branches in Tamil Nadu. All the eleven branches are to be merged with the Indian Bank. It is a policy decision and I don't want to go into it further. But I would only say that the efficient running of the banks should be left to the bank administration. Of course, the politicians should not interfere in their affairs. But in this case, I had to interfere because the IndBank employees are tp be simply sent out. If they were sent on VRS, I could have understood. Generally, we don't want to interfere. But in the case of IndBank Housing, 40-50 employees are to be retrenched, it is not good. This 40-50 employees could have been absorbed by the Indian Bank itself. Therefore, this is an issue, which, I hope, the hon. Finance Minister would look into.

In the public sector, some of the units were previously running on profit. Then, for a developmental plan, they would have taken huge loans from the banks. They kept on paying interest on the huge loan they had obtained, and, after some time, they were not able to pay the interest, because of the incremental loan. It was very difficult for them to repay. That is why, these units, for example the Salem Steel Plant or the Hindustan Photofilms or any other public sector enterprise in Tamil Nadu, they are in the doldrums. Please find out the exact reasons as to why they have become unviable. If you are able to do something, some sort of settlement of this interest payment, then, they will again become viable. This also, the Finance Minister has to look into.

You had a plan of disinvestment. As far as disinvestment is concerned, the Disinvestment Committee had said that you need to delink it from the Budget exercise. But, here, so far, the disinvestment and Budget proposals are linked together. I feel, if you delink them, the share prices of those companies will go up again. Even though you wanted to disinvest some of the public sector enterprises in Tamil Nadu, our people, cutting across party lines, took a united stand and the hon. Minister now has written a letter to Shri Kuppuswami, an hon. Member of the other House, saying that they have withdrawn the proposal, for which I thank the hon. Minister.

Regarding mutual funds, there are three-four types of incomes. One is from the interest, another is from the capital gains. There are three-four areas. Because of the time constraint, I am not going to explain them. But, I would suggest that in the case of these two things, interest and capital gain should be treated as income accrued from mutual fund. If it is dividend, then the TDS can be applied. But in these two categories, TDS should not be applied. I think, the Government has to go a bit farther than they had done previous.

With regard to the Special Economic Zones, I have a request to the hon. Finance Minister. As far as Tamil Nadu is concerned, there is a proposal to establish a Special Economic Zone at Nanguneri. I hope, the Central Government should help the State in whatever way it can, and also as early as possible.

Sir, with regard to one-time settlement, there is a problem. One-time settlement is Rs.25,000-50,000. This is not going to solve the problem. Some people who invest their money are expired. If there are expired means, there will be ladies only. But, in turn, they can't pay money for that. I feel, those companies who take loans from the banks, in case the management people expire, the companies are there are closed or running at a loss, the Government has to adopt a different approach.

These are the areas in which the Central Government has to concentrate much. At the same time, to increase the revenue what they have to do? There are other ways. Revenue comes not only through taxation. It comes from non-tariff areas also.

Sir, I will take only two or three minutes more. There are a number of cases pending under the FERA. Now, the FEMA has come into

existence. The people who had been charged under the FERA are still being investigated under the FERA. What I feel is that the FERA functions very slow. I would like to know from the hon. Minister how many cases are pending under the FERA. They have to ensure that the cases under the FERA are expedited. Regarding the NPAs of the banks, I would like to say that if you include the undid charged interest, the percentage would be more. I, therefore, request that while collecting the NPAs, the interest aspect should not be ignored. Sir, we have also to find out about the off-shore wealth which is a new phenomenon that has come into existence recently. Here, the off-shore wealth means, the transactions through *hawala*. They take this money to other countries and invest there. There are still areas which are tax haven. I can give you the example of Cayman Island. Sir, I am told that several Indians are investing their black money there. I am also told that three or four persons from India have invested nearly Rs.600 crores. It may be true or it may not be true. But I would like to know from the hon. Finance Minister whether there is any bank in the Cayman Island which takes the off-shore wealth and invests it there. If this amount of Rs.600 crores had been invested there, then I would like to know the names of those Indians who have invested this money there. I request that this matter should be investigated through the Interpol and it should be ensured that this money which has been taken from India actually comes back to the people of India. With these words, I conclude. Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA): Thank you for your cooperation. Now, Shri Khuntia. Mr. Khuntia, you have agreed that you will take only two minutes because you had to make only one or two points.

SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA (Orissa): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on the Finance Bill. Sir, I have only two or three points. The first point is regarding the imposition of taxes on the salaried class and other poor people of the country. As has been pointed out by many people, I do not know why the Government is feeling hesitant to take steps to curb the growth of the black money which to the tune of Rs.50,000 crores is going into the economy every year and to the tune of Rs.20,000 crores going to Switzerland. If you look at the NPA position, you will find that the total NPA of the public sector banks, the private sector banks and the foreign banks was Rs.58720 crores. Now it has increased to Rs.63883 crores as on 2001. It clearly indicates that the Government does not very much bother about it. If they are able to control

the black money and if they are able to control the NPA losses, then I think there would be no need for any subsidy or imposition of taxes any more. Sir, here I would like to give one example. It has been stated by many people that inflation is under control. But if you see the Price Index from 1960 to 1990 the inflation increase was only 900 as per 1960 as 100. But from 1999 till today, just in 12 years, it has been increased to 1265 points. Even if you say that inflation is under control, the Consumer Price Index is increasing. Sir, I do not want to take more time. I know you are very much worried about the time. Now I will make only a mention of the problems of my State. Sir, as you know, many of the States are not able to spend the money given by the Central Government because they are not able to give the State's share. So is the case with Orissa where Rs.22,000 crores is the loan. The cyclones and floods have totally damaged the economy of the State. It is a tribal-dominated State. The Prime Minister himself has stated many times that he would consider the demand of treating Orissa as a special category State. I would like to know from the Finance Minister whether keeping in view the financial condition of the State, the Government would declare Orissa as a special category State like it has been done in the case of many other States and give 70 per cent as assistance and not as loan. I want a categorical assurance from the Government in this regard. The other point I would like to make is this. the World Bank is giving loan at the rate of 4 per cent to the Government of India, but the Finance Ministry of our State has categorically made a point that the Central Government is giving loan to the State at the rate of 12 per cent! This is a *Kabuliwala* business. What is this? If the World Bank is giving loan at the rate of 4 per cent of interest, what right the Central Government has to charge 12 per cent interest from a State? This point should be considered.

The other thing is about coal royalty. Sir, the Eleventh Finance Commission has categorically stated that the royalty given to the coal producing States must be increased in every four years. But it has not been increased since 1996. Since the royalty has not been increased, the compensation should be paid. Hence, I demand for increase of coal royalty and also payment of cess to the State immediately.

Another point is about the KBK Districts of Orissa. There have been discussions in this House and in the other House on the KBK Districts of Orissa. The Central Government is saying that they have given enough to the State Government so far as KBK Districts are concerned. Sir, the

Government of Orissa has formed a long-term action plan, which should have been approved by the Central Government, but it has not been approved. In short, I want to say that the Central Government, while preparing the Budget, must have adequate funds for the States also and should also consider -- because it has been seen in all the Standing Committees that the money that is being given by the Central Government to the State Government is not being used -- in time. Even if it is used, it is only shown as 'used' at the end of the year. So, ultimately, the purpose for which the fund is given is not served and you also cannot find the achievements. That is why I once again request the hon. Finance Minister to consider the poor condition of various States, including Orissa. I once again demand that the Central Government should also declare the State of Orissa as a Special Category State. They have not done this in spite of giving an assurance. With these words, since this Government is not very much serious about the problems of the farmers, about the problems of the consumers, about the problems of the labour, about the problems of the salaried class employees and the poor, I oppose the Finance Bill, 2002, which has been placed before this House.

श्री बालकवि बैरागी (मध्य प्रदेश) : सर, मैं कुल मिलाकर आधा मिनट लूंगा ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री संतोष बागड़ोदिया) : ठीक है, जल्दी से बोलिए, आधा मिनट ।

श्री बालकवि बैरागी : माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैं अपनी जिंदगी में 18-20 बजट इधर-उधर देख चुका हूँ । यह पहला बजट मैं देख रहा हूँ कि सदन में इतने महत्वपूर्ण विषय पर एक भी महिला सदस्य ने भाग नहीं लिया और इस वक्त सदन में एक भी महिला सदस्य उपस्थित नहीं है । मुझे ऐसा लगता है कि महिलाओं ने आपके बजट का बहिष्कार किया है ।

सर, जिस दिन आपने बजट पेश किया था, उस दिन शाम को 'आज तक' चैनल को आपने जो इंटरव्यू दिया था तो उस वक्त उसमें हमारी एक भाभी जी श्रीमती सिन्हा ने आपसे जो कुछ कहा था, उसका उत्तर भी कृपा करके आज आप सदन में दे दें । आपसे मैं यह चाहता हूँ । सर, यह एक बहुत गंभीर बात है । धन्यवाद ।

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Thank you, Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir. I am grateful to all the hon. Members who have participated in this discussion on the Finance Bill, 2002. As you are aware and the House is aware, the Budget is discussed in four parts in Parliament, including the Upper House. The first part is the General Discussion on the Budget where we discuss the strategy of the Budget. We discuss general issues, growth rate, employment and things of that kind. That discussion was held in this House in the first part of the Budget Session. Many hon. Members had

participated in that. It was my misfortune that the day on which I was supposed to reply to the General Discussion on the General Budget, that was the day when the House had to bid farewell to its retiring hon. Members and the House itself was in a retiring mood. Therefore, it was suggested to me that I should keep my reply to the debate, as brief as possible. And I did so. I had the feeling that I was not replying fully to the General Discussion on the Budget. But, that is how it was. And the various proportions, which were related to the first part of the Budget, were passed on that occasion. That is the first part of the Budget discussion.

The second part comes when we take up the discussion, in this House, on the working of the various Ministries. In the other House, it is the Demands for Grants of the various Ministries. In this House we take up the discussion on the working of the Ministries. This year we had a discussion on the working of the Ministry of Labour, before the Appropriation Bill came. And, I believe, the House is subsequently going to take up the discussion on the working of the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of External Affairs. The third part is the Appropriation Bill, which came to this House and we had a discussion on it on which occasion, again, a number of general points were raised, and I had an opportunity to reply to the debate, putting forth the point of view of the Government. The last and the final part of the Budgetary process is the passage of the Finance Bill. This is what we have discussed in the House today. Sir, as you are aware, as the House is aware, the Finance Bill deals with the taxation proposals of the Government, and, generally, in this House, as in the other House, we concentrate on the taxation issues during the discussion on the Finance Bill. I thought that I should explain this in the House because, after we passed the Appropriation Bill, I saw a report in one of the leading newspapers of this city which said that the Finance Bill had been passed by the Rajya Sabha. So, many of us even don't know the distinction between the Appropriation Bill and the Finance Bill, or the various stages of discussion on the Budget, as a whole. But the point remains that this offers an opportunity to the hon. Members of this House to raise issues of general concerns also. Today also we have witnessed that many issues of general nature were raised that did not directly relate to taxation, to the Finance Bill. But, as I said, the Members are well within their right to do so.

Sir, I will begin with a point raised by Biplabbabu. This point was also raised by Pranabbabu when he initiated the discussion on the General

Budget. That is, the issue of growth rate. Mr. Murli Deora, who initiated the discussion today unfortunately, he is not in the House just now; I hope he is listening on the television somewhere -- also raised the issue of growth rate. Growth rate is a very, very important issue. How do we achieve a higher growth rate? The Prime Minister, myself and the whole Government, had been talking about a growth rate of 7 per cent, 8 per cent or 10 per cent. We need a higher rate of growth for the economy of this country, in order to be able to solve our various problems, but most importantly, the problem of poverty. The economists who have made calculations, tell us that if we were to consistently achieve a sustained growth rate of over 7 per cent in the economy over a period of ten years, we would have, at the end of that period effectively, banished poverty from this country. A point that I was making in the meetings of the IMF and the World Bank about 10-12 days ago in Washington, when I was there, was that, globally also, it has been recognised that the conquest on poverty, the world over, is now within our grasp because countries like China and India, countries in East Asia, Countries in Latin America, have been able to tackle the problem of poverty effectively over the last couple of decades. Therefore, the number of poor which is left is such which can be managed if all the countries follow the right kind of policy. The international community has been able to avoid the kind of global crisis that we have seen in the last 5-6 years. The point that Biplabbabu was making was, what is the rate of domestic saving that we have to achieve, and what should be the incremental capital-output-ratio, in order to be able to achieve that growth rate. I entirely agree with him. I also agree with Pranabbabu that we need a higher savings rate, than has been the case in our country in the past. When we were discussing the Appropriation Bill, I gave the figures of household savings to the House, which, I said, at 20.90 percent -- almost 21 per cent -- was the highest ever that we had achieved. The private sector savings at 4.2 per cent were reasonable. We will, perhaps, do well. The highest that we had achieved was 4.9 per cent. We are close to that. The only worrisome feature has been the deficit in the public sector. On that occasion, I had explained in the House that the deficit in the public sector is explained, largely, by the deficit in, what is called, the Government administration, which is the administration of the Central Government, which is the administration of the State Government, which is the administration of the Local Bodies and all that goes with it. And, I had quoted figures to show, how between 1996-97, from about Rs. 32,000 crore negative savings of Government as a whole at all levels the deficit had expanded to something like Rs. 87,000

crore in 1998-99. In a span of two years, the deficit went up so sharply, entirely on account of the burden of the Fifth Pay Commission.

And, now, I come to the issue of States. That day also we discussed the issue of the finances of the States. This is the Council of States, therefore, we must discuss this. But to get back to the point which Shri Biplabbabu had raised today, we do need a higher saving. And for statistical purposes, we can say, okay, minus public sector dissavings, what is the rate of domestic savings and that rate also does not compare favourably, as yet, with the rate of saving in the East-Asian economies, which enabled them to achieve a higher rate of growth and, also, the incremental capital output ratio because, after all, it is the productivity of the capital which will determine; it is the rate of return on the capital, which will determine whether we are efficiently employing that capital or not. And, we are all aware of the fact that Governments are not the most efficient users of resources. We have our problems. These problems have been with us for many years. And calculations would show, Sir, that even when the Government investments have been made, I am not talking of revenue expenditure, which is a non-investment, I am talking of the capital expenditure; the return on capital has been around four per cent. Now, quite clearly, this is an unsustainable situation, because you cannot borrow at 12 or 13 per cent or even at present 7 or 8 per cent and get a return on your investment of only four per cent. Then, it is quite clearly a lost situation. So, both these are issues that we will have to consider; we will have to ensure that we are able to raise the rate of savings. We will have to ensure that we employ that capital more efficiently. And, additionally, we must be able to attract more Foreign Direct Investment; foreign savings as Dr. Biplabbabu said. I am glad to be informing the House that despite the turbulence in the international economy; despite what happened on 11th September, and in our own country, the figures that we have of Foreign Direct Investment, will show that we have done reasonably well, even, as far as the last fiscal year is concerned, on the Foreign Direct Investment front. So, on all these fronts, we will have to continue to move forward in order to be able to achieve that growth rate, that the Prime Minister and I have been talking about. And, unless we achieve that growth rate, it will not be possible for us to banish the problem of poverty from this country. And, I think, it is not the goal of this Government; it is a national goal to which all of us are committed. Because everyone, in every regime has said, 'a higher growth rate is what this country needs.' So, that is the first point which I would like to make. And I will seek the cooperation of the entire House in

the achievement of this particular goal of higher rate of growth so that, we, really as a country, are able to do even better than what we have done. Now, it is very easy to criticise this Government for a lesser rate of growth. I have tackled that issue earlier. I have here figures to show, how, when we compare ourselves internationally, we find, and we have been complimented that India's growth rate has been very good compared to what other countries are achieving. But the national and international context has been a difficult one. The later part of the decade of the 1990's, and the first year and a half of the first decade of the 21st century, have been the most difficult years internationally. Globally, we have never seen as many crises as we have seen now, and I don't have to count the number of countries which have faced this kind of a situation and the kind of social tension and social unrest which has been caused as a result of the collapse of those economies. Fortunately, because of the consistency of the policies that we have followed, the steadfastness of the policies that we have followed, India has been able to avoid the pitfalls of those countries, and I would like to assure the House, through you, Sir, that, that will continue to be the caution with which we shall proceed, even in future, so that we are not subjected to those global turmoils. I would like to refer to the other point which Biplabbabu raised, and that point is about the nature of our reserves. Shri Murli Deora also talked about the high cost of the Resurgent India Bonds (RIB). I remember that when the Resurgent India Bonds (RIB) had been raised, I had answered questions, in this House, about the rate of interest and about the exchange risks. I would like to say it is a very simple calculation. At the point of time when we went for the RIBs or when we went for IMDBs, we compared equivalent raisings by other developing countries in Latin America, in Asia, and we found that as far as rate of interest was concerned, it was more or less equivalent to what other countries were paying. These are not sovereign bonds. This is not the money which has been raised by the Government of India. The House is aware that the Government of India has never raised sovereign borrowings in the international markets. So the Government of India bonds are not being traded in the international markets as there are many other countries' bonds which are being traded. It was done by the State Bank of India, and the State Bank of India worked out an arrangement that unless our foreign exchange reserves go below $ 5 billions or whatever is due on account of the Resurgent India Bonds, the exchange risk remains notional, because, after all, we are borrowing from so many other agencies, multilateral agencies, bilateral agencies, and we are running exchange risk in all these.

So, the Reserve Bank of India has worked out this formula with the State Bank of India, so that all this is taken care of. But, there are times in the life of a nation when we have to show confidence, and internationally, on both occasions, when we went to raise the Resurgent India Bond as well as when we went to raise the India Millenium Deposit Bonds, on both the occasions, the House is aware, Sir, that our reserves were getting depleted. We had comfortable reserves. There was no danger of India falling into some kind of a balance of payment crisis that we had faced in 1991, but the point remains that then, on account of the sanctions, there was a pressure on our reserves. The East-Asian crisis was also happening at about the same time in 1998, and in 2000, we had a very steep increase in international oil prices, as a result of which there was some pressure on the balance of payments. On both the occasions, we were able to reestablish confidence in India as a result of the RIBs and the IMDBs. Therefore, the calculation of the cost of this, only in terms of the rate of interest, I think, will be a little unfair. It is -- if you look at the whole change in the mindset which came about, as a result of the successful operation of these two issues, and the consistency with which the foreign exchange reserves have gone up after this is something which we have to remember at all times, and these reserves, Sir, I would like to assure this House, and, particularly, Biplabbabu, because he has raised this point, are not ephemeral resources. Our short-term debts are the lowest ever today. The World Bank has said that India is a less indebted country now, as far as external debt is concerned, because all the indicators have turned in our favour in the last few years, and the point which I would like to make, therefore, is that these are not ephemeral resources. This is an issue which is raised, true, it is not based on surplus on the trade account, but the fact remains that this is not the kind of a hot money that we talk about which comes today and goes out tomorrow. We have been extremely careful to keep our short-term debts to the lowest possible level. Therefore, I would like to assure the House that the reserves that we have built up are not the kind of reserves which are going to vanish in a jiffy, or, those who have contributed to it are people who have confidence in our economy and they have kept this confidence even at the worst of times. So, this is the point which I would like to make.

Now, the other issue which has been raised -- a very important issue-- by my friend, Shri Murli Deora, is the issue of employment.

That is also an issue, Sir, that I have taken up in this House on earlier occasions. But I would like to say that this Government's policy is not to have jobless growth. Growth with equity, growth with employment, is what we seek, and I do not think there has been any Government, in the past, which has said, "We want to seek jobless growth." But let us also recall to our mind the fact that the Indian economy is going through a churning process. It is a churning process through which the Indian economy is going. Especially, the industrial sector is going through a churning process. The issue was raised, of our compulsions, our obligations, under the W.T.O. An hon. Member who spoke from the AIADMK asked, "Why should we submit to the W.T.O.?" The point, Sir, is, the W.T.O. is an obligation that Government of India has assumed, and as long as we are a member of the W.T.O, we have to abide by those obligations. If we decide, as a nation, that we do not want to have anything to do with the W.T.O., we want to walk out of it, by all means, we have that option. All that we need to do is to tell the W.T.O., "We are not your member any more." But I do not think that situation has come yet when India should decide to opt out of the W.T.O. It is very easy to say that we have raised the prices of this, that, or the other article, and reduced the customs duty on imported liquor, but all I can say is that that was an obligation. I did not think, the Government of India did not think, that that was an issue on which we should walk out of the W.T.O. Shri Kaushikji who talked about the W.T.O and all other things is not here. I would like to state, Sir, that the W.T.O. is not guiding our policies, or for that matter, any other international organisation, because we are not indebted to, we have not taken any loans from, the IMF. The World Bank loans are in a totally different category; they are development loans. We are members of the W.T.O. like every other country, and the thinking that we are constantly under the pressure of these organisations, and, therefore, they are dictating our policies, is entirely misplaced. We have obligations, because, after all, when we get together internationally, each country surrenders a little bit of its sovereignty in order to create that international arrangement; and India is no exception to that. But, beyond that little surrender of sovereignty which, let us say, the USA has done or the European Community has done or Japan has done or every other country has done, there is nothing very special about India. Therefore, we will not submit to anything which is unfair. After all, did we submit to anything which was unfair at Doha? We did not, and we will not; we will continue to struggle, we will continue to put our case, we will continue to fight, we will continue to organise the developing countries so

that our case is heard and justice is done, not only with India, but with the entire developing world.

Sir, now I come to the point about employment. If we do not want jobless growth, we will have to create more employment, and I am glad that Shri Murli Deora was giving figures of what happens when you build a million houses, 10 lakh houses. Then, how many jobs will be created? He himself said, "3.2 crore people will get employment." That was the figure that he was himself quoting. Now, I think, I can take some credit for that. Housing is one sector where this Government's record has been quite flattering, because, Sir, I recall that when we started it in 1998, when I presented my first Budget, the amount of Income-tax concession which was available for interest paid on housing loan was a mere Rs. 15,000. Today, it is Rs. 1,50,000. Shri Murli Deora was saying that there should be no limit. I do not accept that theory because what is it that we are trying to do. We are trying to help the middle level income people who will be building a house for Rs. 10 lakhs or Rs. 12 lakhs. With the reduced rate of interest now in our economy, the rate of interest on housing loans has come down by 400 basis points in the last two years. And, when we talk of rate of interest, let us recall to our mind the one big thing which has happened in our economy. It is that, all our young people who want to build houses are now getting loans at 400 basis points less than what was the case two-three years ago. Now, what is the rate of growth? The housing finance has been growing by over 30 per cent every year. The housing finance companies told me that they are constructing something like three million houses every year in this country, and this has been going on. This is a movement which we will continue to support, in order to be able to achieve not merely the target of two million houses,but much more than that. All that is creating jobs. If Mr. Murli Deora is to be believed that 3.2 crore employment opportunities have opened up as a result of one million houses, then, if we are building three million houses, look at the number of people who are getting employment. Then we have the National Highway projects, the Prime Minister's Gram Sadak Yojna. These are all labour-intensive works which are generating employment. What is the latest figure of employment that we have? We have the latest figures of employment from 1993-94 to 1999-2000. This is a six-year span, where we see that while the percentage of people who are seeking jobs has gone down, the employment opportunities have also shrunk. What is the reason? This is a period which takes into account almost two years of every regime -- two years of the Congress regime, two years of the United Front Government

and two years of the present Government. This is the snap-shot of these six years.

Now, let us not read too much into this. What has gone down is public sector employment. The public sector employment will go down. It is not merely that the Indian industry is in the process of churning...

SHRI JIBON ROY (West Bengal): Employment opportunities in the private sector have also gone down.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: No, Sir. The private sector employment has gone up. I have got figures to show that. I am prepared to share it with you.

Sir, the point that I am making is that, gone are the days when the public sector was looked upon as a favourite pasture of people like us, that we could get our people employed in the public sector. That is what has brought the public sector to this pass. That has to go. The public sector has to become lean, clean and more efficient. That is the thrust of our policy. Therefore, we will not look to creating employment opportunities in the public sector. The biggest loss of jobs in this period has been in the public sector, where it has gone to minus. Since the Government is the biggest employer in the organised sector, that is why this kind of a situation has arisen. It has gone up in the unorganised sector; it has gone up in the private sector, and it has gone down in the public sector.

Then, Sir, I come to the other thing. There is no doubt that a higher rate of growth will ensure better employment opportunities. These other things that we have thought about are means which will open up more employment opportunities. So, employment is something which is very dear to the heart of this Government. Employment is something on which we are thinking. Every day we are thinking of policies which will enable us to take care of the problem of employment.

Sir, in the Budget, we have laid emphasis on the agricultural sector and on the rural sector. I agree entirely with those Members on this side and on that side, who have said that agriculture is the back-bone of our economy. I am convinced personally that agriculture must provide the growth impulses for our economy. It is only when agriculture has moved that the rest of the economy has moved. So, we continue to pay the greatest attention to agriculture and to rural development.

7.00 P.M.

Sir, we have to work together with the States. There is no way in which we can do it single-handedly from the Centre. This is exactly what we are trying to do. Whether it is the power sector reforms or management of the food economy or the agriculture sector reforms, it is the laws of the State Governments which are coming in the way. We have to work with them, in order to be able to solve those problems.

One more point has been raised. Many other points have also been raised, but this is a point regarding the black money in our economy. Black money estimates were made many, many years ago. Nobody really knows what is the extent and size of the black money today in the economy; how much of it is in India and how much of it is abroad, but there is one thing which I have consistently held in all the five Budges that I have presented. That is, I will not have an immunity scheme.

Sir, personally, I feel very, very strongly about this. If you have an immunity scheme every two or three years in this country, then, why should honest tax-payers pay taxes? They will wait for some immunity scheme or the other and they will come out with their black money and get relief from taxes, get relief from prosecution. I can take some credit for the fact that it has been possible as a result of the steps that we have taken to push up the number of personal income-tax payers in this country. The fact that on the 31st March of 1988, the number of tax-payers was about one crore and 15 lakhs and today, though the number of tax returns filed could be over two crores and eighty lakhs, the number of tax-payers is two crores fifty lakhs, is not a mean achievement in the last four years. It has become possible only because of the energetic steps that we have taken like one-by-six, reporting cash transactions and spreading it all over the country and with the re-organisation of the tax department, with the computerisation and with the outsourcing of the software and all that we are planning to do, it should be possible for us not only to collect the information but also to collate it, use it and make sure that all those who should be paying taxes in the country end up paying taxes. The percentage of share of direct taxes in the GDP has gone up. The percentage of direct taxes in the overall tax collection has gone up. I had mentioned those figures in this House. We started with something like 80:20--20 per cent was the contribution of direct taxes and 80 per cent was the contribution of indirect taxes at the beginning of the 90s. Today, we are converging the two lines and they are coming closer to each other. Today, it is 57 per cent for indirect taxes and 43 per

cent for direct taxes. I am looking forward to a day very soon when it will be possible for direct taxes to overtake the contribution of indirect taxes and that is something which will ensure that we have an equitable tax system in the country.

Sir, the final point that I would like to make is with regard to the issue that has been raised about the finances of the State Governments. The issue of Tamil Nadu has been raised; the issue of Orissa has been raised; the issue of Bihar has been raised. Mr. Raviji has reminded me of my old days, of how we used to have a picnic across the river in Patna and all that. There is one thing which I would like to say and that is, in the last four years that I have been in the Ministry of Finance, we have approached this problem as professionally as possible. We have looked at each State with the utmost sympathy and have made sure that they get over their temporary problems. We have not allowed politics of one kind or the other to come in between our judgment and the problem of the States. I do not have to mention it to the House, I was very happy when I got or when I get letters with regard to the attitude of the Government of India from Chief Ministers and Finance Ministers of States which are not ruled by the NDA. They also recognise this. I had occasion to mention in this House when I was replying to the debate on the Appropriation Bill that we have created an institution in our dealings with State Governments in the context of the imposition of the Valued-Added Tax. But there is now a Group of Finance Ministers of the State Governments which are gradullay now looking at and discussing with me other issues of Centre-State financial relationship. As I have said, the West Bengal Finance Minister had come and met me. He had represented to me and I had met the Standing Committee of Finance Ministers. We have decided that we will have a meeting with all the Finance Ministers of the State Governments later towards the end of this month where we will sit down and discuss these issues. I would also hasten to add that the Government of India cannot be looked upon as the lender of last resort. We have no such unlimited resources that somebody has to merely come and give me a bill and I will say, "Okay, I am here and take this money". I am not in such a position. I am going to borrow Rs.1,35,000 crores in this fiscal year, if I am lucky and my revenues are good. But even within our constraints, we are trying to help the States. We have helped the States. Currently, we help the States and we will continue to help the States in future. I will discuss this with the State Finance Ministers. This is a game in which we are together. It is not an adversarial relationship where the States and the Centre are at loggerheads. No. This is not the way that

we have worked. We have worked in the greatest harmony with a great understanding of each other's problem and that is the spirit in which we shall continue to solve the problems of the State Governments, and therefore, whether it is..*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI N. JOTHI: What is your answer to the Chief Minister's letter? Just now, you said that there is going to be a conference of the State Finance Ministers very shortly. But, you have not given any answer to the Chief Minister's letter. Kindly throw some light on it.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, that letter has not been addressed to me. The letter, which the hon. Member is referring to, has been addressed to the Prime Minister. I cannot answer on behalf of the Prime Minister. I do not know. The hon. Member is saying: " Why didn't I answer?" I didn't answer because the letter has not been addressed to me.

SHRI N. JOTHI: That goes to show that the Prime Minister and the Finance Minister are not having proper coordination. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: That may be your judgment. That is not my judgment. Sir, this is not the spirit in which we are tackling our problems. Let me assure this House that I have the best relationship with every Finance Minister of the State Government of this country. You just have to ask the Finance Minister of your own State Government, and he will tell you how we are dealing with the problems of the States. So, let us not convert something, which is going on so smoothly, into some kind of an adversarial relationships. We are not in confrontation. We are working together. This issue that has been raised here, is about the arrangement that we have made in this Budget. It is the recommendation of the Eleventh Finance Commission that there should be an Incentive Fund. Incentive Fund for what? Shri Rama Shanker Kaushikji was making that point. Incentive Fund for States to improve their fiscal situation, and this is the issue that we are taking forward. Now, we do not need a WTO; we do not need a World Bank; we do not need an IMF; we do not need the multinationals to come and tell us that we must have our house in order. Do we need them to come and tell us that we should control our deficit? And how do we control our deficit? We control our deficit by compressing our expenditure. How do we improve our revenues? We improve our revenues by collecting more taxes, better tax compliance and by raising user chargers. I have, time and again, said in this House and the other House that we must be able to raise the user charges, and most of the responsibility for raising the user charges,

is with the State Governments. I am glad that in the Guwahati meeting of the Congress (I) Chief Ministers, the Party has decided to go back on the issue of free electricity and free power for the Punjab farmers. ..*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH (Andhra Pradesh): But, in Andhra Pradesh, they have said that they will supply free power. Even yesterday, they have said so.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Let me take the House into confidence and say that there is total convergence and total consensus among those who are in governance, whether they are in the States or in the Central Government, on this point. There is complete unanimity on this point on what needs to be done. It is only the politics outside, which is spoiling the pitch, for them as well as for us, and therefore, I am pleading, through you, Sir, that the consensus which exists in the governing among those who are power in various parts of the country - and everyone is in power in some art of the country or the other- let that consensus also inform the political parties of this country - that indeed will be a great day - let us come together, to be able to solve the daunting problems that we are facing, Sir, as a nation. Thank you very much.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA): The question is:

That a Bill to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the financial year 2002-2003, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.

The motion was adopted.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN: Now, we shall take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

Clauses 2 to 163, the First Schedule, the Second Schedule, the Third Schedule, the Fourth Schedule, the Fifth Schedule, the Sixth Schedule, the Seventh Schedule, the Eighth Schedule and the Ninth Schedule were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, I beg to move:

That the Bill be returned.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA): The House stands adjourned till 11 A.M. on Tuesday, the 7th May, 2002.

The House then adjourned at eleven minutes past seven of the clock, till eleven of the clock on Tuesday, the 7th May, 2002.